

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Hotlines
Why Nato countries are rethinking their approach to the Soviet Union in this period of tension and uncertainty.

Headlines
From building society to circulation-building: a profile of Clive Thornton, the new chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers.



Lifelines
Phillip Whitehead mourns the death of the controversial paediatrician Dr Leonard Arthur.

Between the lines
Michael Ratcliffe reviews the first full-scale English biography of Heinrich von Kleist.

Pound slips 2 cents on oil fears

Worries over oil prices in the wake of the Nigerian coup hit the pound. It fell sharply against all leading currencies and bore the brunt of a fresh surge in the dollar, closing down 2.30 cents at \$1.4285. **Page 13**

Dearer tea

Prices climbed by about 20 per cent at London's tea auction and the cost to the consumer is expected to rise exports. India has curbed tea exports. **Page 3**

Kremlin terms

Unless the West changes its position, there can be no hope of progress at the forthcoming Stockholm arms control conference. *Pravda* said in a headline denunciation of Nato. **Page 5**

'Life' man out

Kenneth Barlow, Britain's second longest serving prisoner, left jail on licence after serving 26 years of a life sentence for murdering his second wife. **Page 3**

Shah dispute

The National Graphical Association should be sued for the £314,000 cost of policing Mr Eddie Shah's printing works, Cheshire County Council's Conservative leader said. **Page 2**

Victim's gift

Mrs Janice Weston, the solicitor found murdered last September, was left more than £100,000 by a merchant banker a few years before she died.

Barre hits back

M Raymond Barre, the former French Prime Minister, hit back at a report which is highly critical of his role in the oil-deterring sniffer aircraft scandal. **Page 4**

Talbot fighting

Car production at the Talbot plant at Poissy, near Paris, could not be resumed yesterday after fighting between strikers and other employees left six workers slightly injured. **Page 5**

England fright

A Fijian President's XI came within 18 runs of defeating an England XI in a one-day cricket match in Suva. **Page 15**

Chappell to quit

Greg Chappell, the former Australia captain, announced his retirement from Test cricket. **Page 15**

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Tunis paralysed as tanks roll in and riots spread

Tunis (AFP, Reuters). — President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia yesterday declared a state of emergency and imposed a night curfew after food riots, in which at least 20 people are believed to have died, spread to the capital.

The Government had earlier ordered army units to take up strategic positions in Tunis. A pall of smoke hung over the city from fires started by rioters.

An Interior Ministry statement said irresponsible elements had started disturbances in some parts of the city. It asked parents to keep children off the streets.

Under the state of emergency, a curfew was imposed from 6pm to 5am and gatherings of more than three persons in public places were prohibited. Security forces, including police, army and national guard units, were given authority to shoot if necessary to maintain order.

Riot police using batons and tear gas dispersed demonstrators on Habib Bourguiba Avenue, the city's main thoroughfare. Diplomatic sources said police fired warning shots in outlying areas of the city. In mid-afternoon, tanks rolled into the city centre.

Rioters set fire to buses, scores of overturned cars and piles of old tyres. Police and troops fired tear gas in return.

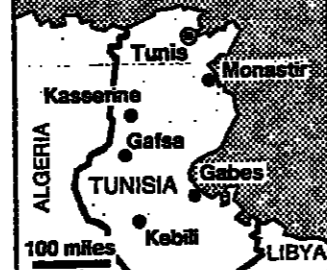
The city paralysed. Buses and trains stopped running and motorists sped for safety through streets filled with tear gas.

In the provinces, the situation was also said to be getting worse. In the port of Gaves,

tanks were said to be patrolling the streets and shots could be heard. In the town of Kef, 110 miles west of Tunis, near the Algerian border, rioters were reported to have set fire to the law courts and supermarkets.

In Sfax, Tunisia's second city, 155 miles south of the capital, violent clashes were reported to be continuing. Villages outside the main towns were also said to be the scene of disturbances.

The number of reported casualties increased. In south-western Gafsa Province, sources said 19 people had been killed and many more injured. In



Kasserine, north of Gafsa, and Gafsa, seven more deaths were reported.

The Government yesterday said four people had been killed and an unspecified number injured in disturbances in four towns after a 110 per cent increase in the price of bread, which was announced on Sunday.

Yesterday morning, students chanted slogans against the increase in front of President Bourguiba's palace in Carthage, a suburb of Tunis. At the same time, the President flew to his home town of Monastir to

preside over celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of his founding of the Socialist Destourian Party. The party has held power in Tunisia since independence in 1956.

The main opposition, the Socialist Democrats' Movement, deplored the violence but denounced the "brutal" reaction, saying many had fallen to the bullets of government forces.

A junior minister said measures to help poor Tunisians, hardest hit by the price rises for cereal products, would soon be implemented. The Government had begun talks with the powerful General Union of Tunisian Workers on how to help workers.

The press yesterday published no more than the official communiqué on the riots, but the Government-sponsored *La Presse* and *L'Action*, justified the decision to abolish the food subsidies, which were creating a chronic deficit.

● PARIS: Tunisia's Ambassador to France, Mr Hedi Mabrouk, yesterday denied that food price increases were the only cause of demonstrations and said uncontrolled elements had taken advantage of the situation.

● LONDON: British travel companies last night said they had no fears for their clients (a staff reporter writes). A spokesman for the Tunisian Travel Bureau, which has between 50 and 80 British holidaymakers in Tunisia, said: "We are quite happy with the situation at the moment. We are in constant touch with our hostellers." **Analysis, page 4**

Mugabe demotes senior minister

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, yesterday scaled down an overblown Cabinet, dismissing some members outright and demoting others.

The most notable change was the removal of Dr Herbert Ushewokunze from the Ministry of Home Affairs, where he was widely criticized for arbitrary use of emergency powers. His replacement, Simbi Mukoko, is a scholarly moderate.

Mr Mugabe also broadened the scope of his own responsibility, absorbing one ministry and appointing four new ministers of state. These have come from the six ministries which have been combined with others. Two other ministers are left without portfolio, while eight deputy ministers have been dismissed.

Dr Ushewokunze, responsible for signing the orders under which hundreds of detainees are being held, has been appointed Minister of a restructured Department of Transport and Road Traffic.

Mr Mugabe said of him: "Whatever his shortcomings he has a brilliant brain". The former Home Affairs Minister is regarded by observers as having contributed significantly to the deterioration in Zimbabwe's human rights record since his appointment almost two years ago.

His replacement, Mr Mukoko, moves across from the Ministry of Justice, where on more than one occasion he defended the judiciary from attacks by Dr Ushewokunze.



Dr Ushewokunze: Human rights record attacked



Mr Mugabe: Increased his own responsibilities

Labour has lost its identity, says Wilson

By Anthony Pevins Political Correspondent

Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, the former Prime Minister, said yesterday that Mr Neil Kinnock's Labour Party was fighting hard to look like the natural party of opposition.

He said in an ITN interview: "Although many people enjoy themselves in opposition more than they do on the government benches, the Labour Party is no longer what I called it and what it was — the natural party of opposition."

Clearly referring to Mr Michael Foot's leadership, Lord Wilson said: "With some performances not long ago, it has not even been the natural

party of opposition, and of course there is now a rather strong and intelligent, however regrettable, third party which is an opposition party."

There was, however, a tribute to Mr Kinnock: "We have a new leader now, I think an excellent one. The more I talk to him or see of him, the more I think so."

Yet, in perhaps typical fashion, Lord Wilson pointed out that Mr Kinnock's attack on the Government lacked the fullest impact because he had no ministerial experience of administration.

He also said the voters were still not quite clear what the Labour Party stood for, what alternative was.

Lord Wilson added, however: "The party is, I think, happier together now. It is resolved to fight these skinheads or whatever they may be called from the Trotskyist side."

The party also realized that its long-term prospects were bleak if it failed to deal with the extremists and failed to unite around "new and serious policies".

Criticism of the Government was not enough, he said. The party had to go out and win the next election.

"In my day," he said, "we won four out of five — there was a break when Mr Heath got in — but, as I say, we were a natural party of government. That was my claim. Now, we

are fighting hard to look like the natural party of opposition."

Lord Wilson pinned much of the blame for Labour's problems on the increased power of the unions inside the party. He said: "I believe that too much power has been transferred from the parliamentary Labour Party, the elected MPs."

Commenting on the national scene, he said: "Our biggest problem now is the deprivation and the feeling of not being wanted by so many unemployed."

The true figures are not three million — that is absolute rubbish. They are about 4.3 million at least."

Lieut Goodman, the freed US airman and behind the Rev Jesse Jackson

Syria releases US airman but Reagan stands firm

By Our Foreign Staff

Despite Syria's release of United States Navy Lieutenant Robert Goodman, the White House said yesterday that American aircraft would continue reconnaissance flights over Syrian-held positions in Lebanon to protect United States Marines near Beirut.

As the airman was released, the Defence Department in Washington disclosed that United States jets yesterday flew over Syrian-held positions in Lebanon to protect United States Marines near Beirut.

The White House spokesman Mr Larry Speakes said the reconnaissance flights were a defensive mechanism and would go on until attacks by Syrian-backed forces on the Marines serving with the multinational peacekeeping force had stopped.

President Assad of Syria ordered the release of Lieutenant Goodman earlier yesterday during a mission to Damascus by the Democratic presidential contender, the Rev Jesse Jackson. Lieutenant Goodman was captured by the Syrians after being shot down while on a reconnaissance flight on December 4.

Mr Jackson and the airman yesterday left Damascus for Frankfurt with the airman saying "I am not a hero" and Mr Jackson calling on President Reagan to hold a summit meeting with the Syrian President.

The airman's release, Mr Jackson said, was a "victory for everybody". President Assad had made a magnificent gesture because he "wanted to cooperate, to break the cycle of pain".

British ban on French milk lifted

British barriers against imported milk were lifted for the first time yesterday when 38,000 pints from Normandy were cleared at Newhaven, West Sussex, as fit for human consumption. The shipment was released by officials of Lewes District Council who received two inquiries from British companies, saying they might import milk from West Germany and Scandinavia.

The French consignment of semi-skimmed long-life milk entered Britain despite opposition from farmers and unions but in time to avert a clash between the British Government and the EEC Commission.

Britain reeling in backlash of America's freeze

By Colin Hughes

Blizzard and gales gusting to gale force have brought a week of disruption to Britain. A knock-on effect of the cold-breaking freeze, which spread North America over the Christmas holidays, is weather ports said.

Snow yesterday brought chaos to many parts of Scotland, closing roads and dragging down power supply lines and leaving thousands of people without heat or light. Snow fell far south as Kent and Dorsetshire.

The bitter weather would normally have been suffered by Ireland and Norway, but the extraordinary cold over North America for the past two weeks has shifted the pressure weather to sweep across the British Isles. The Meteorological Office in Bracknell said yesterday:

The record low temperatures in the United States — and normally have affected British weather. "But in this case the movement of air in the upper atmosphere between 18,000 ft and 30,000 ft have brought low pressure systems further south," a spokesman said.

As the winds and snow spread south, speed limits were imposed on motorways, and drivers battled against appalling conditions. At sea, at least two ships were picked to safety and others sought to reach shelter.

For the second day, Scotland bore the brunt of the bad weather and emergency services were stretched to their limits. Ten thousand homes on the island of Skye and the district of Lochalsh were without power from early morning Barra and Vatersay, in the Outer Hebrides, were in darkness, and yachts blown out of the water, blacking out four small towns. Many roads were blocked by snow, but a number of people had lucky escapes.

Subsidy puts Commons catering into profit

By Anthony Berins, Political Correspondent

The House of Commons Refreshment Department, is planning to spend more than £1m on catering and staff facilities over the next three years, Mr Charles Irving, the Conservative chairman of the parliamentary catering committee, said yesterday.

The department last month reported a "net profit" of £230,697 for the year to last March. The accounts failed to disclose the £1,761,441 which the Treasury had paid for the cost of permanent staff, although they did volunteer that the taxpayer picked up the bill for gas, electricity and water.

Mr Irving said yesterday that, instead of the word "profit", he preferred to use the word "surplus". He said: "It

isn't really profit if you are distributing it to yourself, is it?" He expected that it would be four or five years before the department "returned" some money to the Treasury.

Meanwhile, the Commons department has built up reserves estimated at £1m. They include £655,486 held in investment and current accounts at Lloyds Bank, which last year earned net interest after corporation tax of £23,488.

Asked what he would be doing with his reserves, Mr Irving said: "We shall be spending it. We are submitting to the House of Commons Commission a three-year rolling programme which will far exceed the £1m so that we have to our credit."

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Further rise in cost of tea likely as auction prices increase by 20%

By Michael Prest

The price of a packet of tea, still Britain's favourite drink, is expected to rise again because the Indian Government has severely restricted tea exports.

Prices soared by about 20 per cent at yesterday's weekly tea auction in London. A spokesman for Brooke Bond Oxo, which with 30 per cent of the British market is the nation's biggest supplier, said: "We are looking at the situation daily and clearly another increase cannot be long deferred."

But both tea traders and retailers could not say yet by how much prices in the shops would rise. Brooke Bond raised its prices by 10 per cent last April, and again in December by 8.5 per cent for packet tea and 12.5 per cent for tea bags.

The increases were forced by a continuous rise last year in world tea prices. The average London auction price rose from 135p a kilogramme in April to 252p just before Christmas. Consumption in the Middle East, the Soviet Union and developing countries has been growing and in 1983 world demand exceeded supply.

These increases are just

beginning to work their way on to the supermarket shelves. But the announcement on Christmas Day by the Indian Government that it would ban, probably for four months, the export of crushed tea and curd (CTC) teas has pushed prices up again.

The CTC process releases the strong flavour and colour from the north Indian teas which are the basis of popular blends in Britain. The market leader is Brooke Bond's PG Tips. Of the tea drunk in Britain, 80 per cent is CTC, and of that amount India supplies a quarter.

No official averages for yesterday's auction have yet been calculated, but tea traders said that quality teas could now be fetching around 330p, an increase of 50p over the last auction. Northern Indian teas rose by between 50p and 70p yesterday and one variety of Sri Lankan tea, Ceylon Broken Orange, reached what is believed to be the record price of 360p a kilogramme.

India's decision to stop exporting CTC tea, which constitutes most of the producer's overseas sales, is be-

lieved in the tea trade to have been motivated by the unpopularity within India of higher tea prices. Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, stands for reelection this year.

The timing of the ban has also been prompted by the end of the northern Indian tea season, which runs from April to December. In a normal year, India would supply Britain with about eight million kilograms of tea over the next four months. Total British imports are around 180 million kilograms annually.

Britain is particularly vulnerable to changes in the world supply because it is one of the biggest tea markets. The average British citizen, according to the Tea Council which represents the industry, drinks 3.25 kilograms of tea a year, or four cups a day. Only Ireland, Kuwait and Qatar consume more per capita.

A spokesman for Brooke Bond said that retail tea price increases are running well behind wholesale tea prices. It had warned the trade in December that another rise might be necessary if world tea prices continued to go up.

Law Society attack on media over Bill

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Coverage by the media of the House of Lords Bill, which seeks to end solicitors' monopoly in conveyancing, has been strongly criticized by Mr Christopher Hewson, president of the Law Society.

In a letter to all solicitors' firms in England, Mr Hewson said the society's attempts to put over its case to the public had been frustrated by "a hostile press".

The letter also said the media had "constantly distorted" the way in which the society handled complaints from the public about solicitors, and singled out the recent case in which Mr Glanville Davies overcharged his client, Mr Leslie Parsons, by more than £100,000.

A Law Society spokesman said last night the letter had been sent immediately after the second reading of the Bill on December 16 because members would want to know the society's views and, because of Christmas, would not receive next edition of their professional journal until the middle of January.

Mr Hewson thanked them for responding to his call to

block what he described as "this thoroughly unsatisfactory Bill". Because of their constructive response, MPs had been "delighted" with letters warning them of the "vital consumer interests which are at stake".

The lobbying of MPs by solicitors had helped to ensure that virtually all speakers on the Bill in the Commons had recognized its unsatisfactory nature, he said.

The Bill, sponsored by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, and supported by the Consumer Association, unexpectedly received its second reading after the Government had asked for its rejection on the ground that it would put forward its own legislation in the future. The Law Society had been criticized by some MPs for trying to persuade MPs to vote against the measure.

The Bill now goes to the committee stage, where it is likely to be overtaken by the Government's own, less radical, proposals for the reform of conveyancing.

Price predictions, page 10

LBC to cut news broadcasts

By David Hewson

Britain's first commercial local radio station is to cut its news output in an attempt to remain financially viable.

Talk shows and feature items will be increased on London-based LBC, but plans to introduce pop music in an attempt to maintain ratings have been dropped.

LBC started in 1973 as a talk and current affairs station, but its fortunes declined last year and management found that one of the most frequent criticisms of the station was its repetitive nature of news bulletins.

Mr Peter Thornton LBC's editorial director, said there would be changes in the station's work schedules from next week, but no redundancies among its 170 staff, he said.

Members of the National Union of Journalists at LBC had feared the company wanted to move the station downmarket into pop music to increase ratings.

But Mr Thornton said LBC had looked at introducing pop music and decided against it, although the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which controls the franchise, did not object.

"LBC is an all-speech radio station and we think we can make it more interesting and more appealing in the future," he said. Brian Hayes, the morning chat show presenter, will have an extra hour, and a new afternoon current affairs features programme will be introduced, both at the expense of news bulletins.

LBC was not losing money as a company, he said. "But the situation isn't a licence to print money. News gathering is a very expensive operation and LBC hasn't made huge profits for its shareholders."

Sheep hunt

Ministry of Agriculture officials were trying yesterday to trace thousands of sheep sold at auction in the past six months in 200 square miles on the Cumbria-Durham border where there is a serious outbreak of sheep scab.



Deck games: The Mississippi dancers rehearsing for the Earl's Court International Boat Show which opens at

Disease brings meat ban

By Hugh Clayton

Meat exports to Britain have been banned from farms and factories near an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Holland.

Exports to Britain of Dutch ham and bacon have risen in recent years, and none will now be allowed from within 30 kilometres of the small farm at Nagel in the north-east Polder district from which the disease has spread.

Foot-and-mouth disease is one of the fastest spreading and most costly virus infections of farm animals. The last British outbreak was on the Isle of Wight almost three years ago, when hundreds of animals were slaughtered and burnt on government orders in a successful effort to keep the disease off the mainland.

That virus was thought to have been carried or wafted about 200 miles from outbreaks in northern France. That is about the distance between the Dutch cases and the coast of East Anglia.

The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food in London said yesterday that it was satisfied with the strict precautions taken by the Dutch authorities. The ministry will be represented at a meeting in Brussels today of government vets from all EEC states who will discuss the Dutch cases.

No source has yet been traced, although the outbreak is close to an experimental cattle farm. The virus once infected cattle in Britain after escaping from a laboratory.

Holland fights the disease with mass vaccination of farm animals, while Britain relies on a policy of quarantine and slaughter.

Legal remarriage

By Clifford Longley

A legal challenge is made to the Church of England's new procedures for remarriage of divorced couples.

Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, a body of the Church of England's Legal Advisory Synod, has written a letter to the Church of England's Legal Advisory Synod, which the procedure agreed next month, which would allow a divorced couple to remarry in church.

Lord Denning, who was Chancellor of the London Southwark diocese, has written a letter to a Marriage Solidarity group, a body of the Church of England's Legal Advisory Synod, which the procedure agreed next month, which would allow a divorced couple to remarry in church.

Mr Robert Edwards, a leading member of the group, said yesterday that lawyers had given a strong opinion. The group did envisage a challenge to General Synod in the House of Bishops but said anyone who made such a challenge.

Lord Denning's view was that the General Synod would be to begin complicated procedures to change Canon B 30, which says: "Marriage is in

Action on

By Our Technical

British Telecom is to modify 7,000 of its electronic payphones which have been particularly vulnerable to a disclosed type of theft.

More than 5,500 of the electronic "push-button" payphones which are in service will be modified by the end of the spring. The corporation's lost revenue and the cost of the

Shops 'encouraging children to smoke'

By Kenneth Gosling

Primary school children are being encouraged to start smoking by tobaccoists who sell them loose cigarettes at 10p each, it was claimed yesterday at the launching of a new drive against smoking.

Mr David Simpson, director of the pressure group Ash (Action on Smoking and Health) called on teachers and parents to stamp out the practice. Shopkeepers, he said, were selling the cigarettes for twice the normal price and helping children who could not afford packets of cigarettes to become regular smokers.

The scale of the practice could be large, Mr Simpson said.

Speaking at a press conference in London to launch the first joint initiative by the leading medical and health organizations, tied to a leap year national no-smoking day on February 29, Mr Simpson said parents and teachers should tell shopkeepers they were breaking the law and if they continued to sell to children, then inform the police.

Mr Harry Tipler, a spokesman for retail tobaccoists, said his organization had drawn members' attention to the growing number of requests for cigarettes in singles and fives. "We have sent out 15,000 notices reminding them that it is illegal to serve under-16s with cigarettes."

Pained debate on fish feeling

By Thomson Practice, Science Correspondent

The declared intention of hunt saboteurs to turn their attentions to fish has led to the resurfacing of an old and controversial question: Do fish feel pain?

The question has long divided scientists, but the answer is of great importance to nearly four million anglers.

Yes, probably, Professor John Kelly, of the pharmacology department of St George's Hospital medical school, London, said yesterday.

No, definitely not, responded Dr. Ron Lingfield, regional biologist of the Anglian Water Board.

Well, possibly, Professor Geoffrey Burnstock, director of the neurosciences centre at University College, London, said.

Professor Kelly gave evidence to the three-year inquiry into shooting and angling chaired by Lord Medway, which was sponsored by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The RSPCA interpreted its 1980 report as indicating that fish feel pain.

Professor Kelly said: "Research has shown that fish react to pain-relieving drugs like morphine and valium in the same way as mammals."

"I would argue that it is foolhardy to argue that they do not suffer. The problem is that it is impossible to prove it categorically one way or the other."

In pharmacological tests for pain-transmitting elements in nervous systems, Professor

Kelly found the presence in trout of two chemicals, enkephalin and substance P, which exist in humans, other mammals and birds. They are involved in the transmission of pain sensation.

But Dr Lingfield said: "My view is that fish certainly feel any pain at all, but certainly not in the sense that people associate with the word."

I cannot see any grounds for believing that they experience the same sensations as mammals."

Dr Lingfield was one of three scientists called on by the National Angling Council to study the Medway report.

He challenged some of Professor Kelly's findings and said yesterday: "The fact that certain chemicals found in fish are similar to those found in mammals does not indicate to me that they have the same sensations."

Dr Lingfield and his colleagues' view of the report was that "the scientific evidence does not show that fish feel pain as commonly understood by humans beings".

Professor Burnstock was reluctant to take either side. "This question borders on semantics, philosophy, even religion. A fish has a primitive brain, which may be missing areas of consciousness and things that go with it-free will or emotion, for example."

"Even if a fish has the nerve endings and sensory fibres which react to pain, it doesn't follow that the reactions would register at its conscious level."

"You cannot ask a fish if it feels pain. I think the question is impossible to answer."

Mr Peter Tumbleton, director of the National Angling Council, said: "There is insufficient scientific evidence that fish feel pain. We have looked at the subject deeply and objectively."

The Medway report cautiously concluded that the fish should be given the benefit of the doubt, that is all. The RSPCA interpreted the conclusions differently, but we do not believe objectively."

Mr Don Thomson, director of the Salmon and Trout Association, which represents 8,000 game fishers in Britain, said: "We have no definite standpoint on the question. Each angler must make up his own mind."

"My own feeling is that fish do not feel pain, but I think they do feel panic."

The Hunt Saboteurs' Association says that it intends to disrupt angling by throwing stones into rivers to scare fish away and to confuse anglers by putting up false notices warning of disease.

Mr Thomson said: "These people have every right to their opinions and every right to try to stop what they think is wrong by legal means, but I do not think they have any right to offend violence as a means of preventing these things happening."

The RSPCA does not associate itself with the hunt saboteurs but bases its fishing policy on the Medway report.

Micro sales may reach 2 million

Sales of home computers in Britain this year are expected to approach two million, sustaining the growth pattern seen in the past three years. The sales of the computers, all below £500, totalled about 1.4 million last year, greater than the one million sold in the previous three years.

British manufacturers are expected to have prominent place in the market, particularly Sinclair which now commands about a 55 per cent share.

Last year, Sinclair realized its own targets by selling 600,000 Spectrums and 200,000 ZX 81 machines. In second place was Commodore with sales of 200,000 of the VIC 20 and 230,000 of its model 64. The BBC microcomputer model B sales topped 150,000.

The boom in microcomputer sales shows little sign of abating, and the British manufacturers could obtain a larger slice of the market depriving the US suppliers. Over Christmas, demand outstripped the supply of Sinclair, Spectrums and the Acorn computer, the Electron, which was launched last year.

The BBC has had remarkable success with its machine which has sold more than 200,000 so far.

Firemen called to cut handcuffs

Firemen used a hacksaw to cut off a prisoner's handcuffs after officers at Wood Street police station in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, had failed to free him.

A week earlier two prisoners escaped from the station by shaking off their handcuffs after a court appearance. They were recaptured after a chase. The police said: "The matter is being investigated."

Comedian forced to leave show

Jim Davidson, the comedian, has been forced to leave his Christmas show because of a foot injury.

Mr Davidson, who missed 12 performances at the Apollo Theatre, Coventry, after he dropped a paving stone on his left foot on Christmas Day, returned on Monday against medical advice. But he was in so much pain that future shows were cancelled. Ticket refunds are planned.

Bridge penalty

Michael and Sheila Cox who own a bridge at Swinford, Oxfordshire, have reintroduced a penny toll on motor cyclists to make them slow down, after an accident in which Mrs Cox was struck by a motor cycle.

R R O D S A L E

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Not shown:
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Four sizes, White £7.50 £3.75

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Dagmar, Cattery, silver-plated, £810 £405
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Mr Barlow and his wife on their wedding day, 11 months later she was dead

Wife-killer is freed after 26 years

By a Staff Reporter

Kenneth Barlow, Britain's second-longest serving prisoner, stepped into a freezing dawn from Leyhill open prison near Bristol, yesterday after 26 years in jail.

Barlow, who has been released on licence, saw the outside world from the back of a speeding car containing representatives of a features agency which is understood to have bought his story.

A former nurse, Barlow, now aged 65, was jailed for life at Leeds Assizes in 1957 for what was described as a "perfect murder". He had killed his second wife, Elizabeth, aged 30, and pregnant at the time, by injecting her with insulin.

The couple had been married for 11 months when Mrs Barlow, a former nurse, drowned in her bath after falling into a coma. Only after her body had been exhumed for a second post-mortem examination were needle marks found, and Barlow was tried for murder.

At the trial, a biochemist said that more than 1,000 mice had been injected with extracts taken from Mrs Barlow's body. The animals that responded to the extracts had experienced convulsions and collapse.

Less than a year earlier an anonymous telephone call led to a police inquiry into the death of Barlow's first wife. An inquest ruled that her death was due to natural causes.

Barlow had been due to be released on licence last November but the Home Office announced that he would remain at Leyhill until an inquiry had been conducted into certain unspecified allegations.

Barlow has always protested his innocence. He said he had injected his wife with another drug in an attempt to end her pregnancy.

Barlow is expected to find lodgings in the Kent seaside town of Margate; he will have to report regularly to the probation services. He will be meeting Mrs Sybil Stancliffe, of Batley, West Yorkshire, who, with her late husband, campaigned for his release over a 20 year period. In March Mr Barlow spent some days parole leave with her.

Mrs Stancliffe said yesterday that she was planning a party next month for him. "My husband had talked with a lot of killers and he always said Ken was not one."

She said that Barlow was bitter about being wrongly accused.

Britain's longest-serving prisoner is John Strain, who has been behind bars for 31 years.

He was sent to Broadmoor for killing two young girls, but escaped after seven months and strangled another child. He is now at Long Lartin prison, Hereford and Worcester.

US pilot freed in Damascus

Jackson triumph may prove short-lived

The Rev Jesse Jackson has long been recognized as a skillful self-promoter. His success in securing the release of Lieutenant Robert Goodman from detention in Syria has now transformed him into the most visible and most talked-about of the eight Democratic presidential candidates - outshining, at least for the moment, even the Democratic front-runner, Mr Walter Mondale.

Israeli jets hit twice at Palestinians

From Our Correspondent Beirut

Israeli warplanes bombed a Palestinian stronghold in the central Lebanese mountains yesterday morning, then broke the sound barrier on a later, second run over the target area. In Beirut, a driver for the French Embassy was shot once in the head as he waited beside his car outside the home of M Edouard de Blaupre, the embassy consul.

The driver, identified as M Raymond Vautier, was in critical condition at the American University Hospital after undergoing surgery. The assailant, who fired at M Vautier with a pistol equipped with a silencer, escaped on a motor cycle.

The Israeli air strike was the eighth in Lebanon since November 1, when a lorry laden with explosives was driven into an Israeli military post near the Lebanese port city of Tyre, killing 29 Israeli soldiers and more than 30 Arab detainees.

It followed an increase in attacks on Israeli patrols in southern Lebanon, where Israel has about 15,000 troops. Tension in the south has been heightened in recent days by Israeli arrests of three Muslim prayer leaders.

In yesterday's air raid, four Kfir jets - accompanied by eight escort jets - bombed a hotel in Bhamdoun, 15 miles east of Beirut. The hotel was a headquarters for fighters loyal to Abu Moussa, a rebel Palestinian Liberation Organization chief who helped to drive the PLO chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat, from Lebanon.

The attacking jets also hit an ammunition dump near by, setting it ablaze. Syrian anti-aircraft batteries opened fire on the Israeli warplanes, but the Israeli military command in Tel Aviv said that all of its aircraft returned safely.

agreement which would provide President Reagan with a face-saving way of withdrawing US Marines from Beirut.

Mr Jackson, noting that the Reagan Administration had not tried to block his visit even though they disapproved of it, said he hoped the airman's release would be "a giant step towards new options in the Middle East".

By agreeing to free Lieutenant Goodman, President Assad is clearly trying to make a peace gesture as well as portray his country in a more positive light. Ever since the Beirut bombing which resulted in the deaths of 24 US servicemen, the US has accused Syria of giving tacit support for the terrorist group responsible for that and other attacks.

However, the President's statement welcoming Lieutenant Goodman's release was couched in a significantly moderate tone. "We hope that the Syrian Government will continue to work for peace in Lebanon so that all foreign

forces - Syrian, Lebanese and multinational - can come home."

Despite past US criticism of Syria, it has also been recognized in Washington that Syria had to be an essential element in an eventual agreement on troop withdrawals from Lebanon. Mr Jackson's success should be seen in this context. The release of Mr Goodman, the President's Middle East envoy, is a significant step in this respect.

In this respect, it is significant that the Syrian have not attempted to exploit Mr Jackson's role. The Syrian Government said it was free to release Goodman in response to the American appeal by Mr Jackson.

Mr Jackson is the first American to meet President Assad since the Syrian leader's prolonged illness. It is now a good chance that Mr Assad will be able to deal directly with Mr Jackson when he returns to Damascus.

Mr Jackson's coup will have a far more complicated impact on internal Democratic Party politics in the months preceding the party convention.

Recent opinion polls have shown Mr Jackson in third place among the eight candidates, trailing behind Mr Mondale and Senator John Glenn. His highly-publicized rescue mission will vastly increase his name identification among Democratic supporters and will increase his political power within the party. But it is doubtful whether it will greatly improve his presidential prospects.

Mr Jackson has two problems: he is black, and he is highly controversial. These two factors taken together mean that it is inconceivable he could attract more than a smattering of support among whites who make up the overwhelming majority of the Democratic Party.

He has acknowledged that he declared his candidacy largely for the purpose of

encouraging blacks and other minorities to register as voters and to cast their votes against President Reagan.

Although he has talked about putting together a "rainbow coalition" of blacks, Hispanics and other minorities, his candidacy has even been opposed by many black leaders who feared it could divide the Democratic Party and weaken the chances of whoever is eventually nominated of ousting President Reagan.

Mr Jackson's success will certainly consolidate his appeal among blacks and will strengthen his chances of obtaining an important post in the event of the Democrats winning the November election. It will also silence many of the critics who had condemned his mission as a cynical exercise in self-promotion, even though he clearly viewed the exercise as a means of dramatizing his candidacy.

But when the votes are counted at the party convention, Mr Jackson is likely to emerge as an also-ran.

The Nigerian coup

Handcuffed Shagari in Lagos as ruling council takes office

Lagos (Reuters) - A 19-member Supreme Military Council was sworn in yesterday as Nigeria's highest ruling body. Radio Nigeria reported.

It said three additional members were appointed to the council to join the 16 announced on Sunday. Some of them were members of the last military government which peacefully handed over power after elections in 1979.

There was no immediate word on the deliberations of the council which followed the swearing-in ceremony. It was due to consider the appointment of a Federal Executive Council to act as a Cabinet.

The new head of state, Major-General Mohammed Buhari, told senior civil servants on Monday that they could expect civilian ministers to be appointed to the Executive Council.

General Buhari said at yesterday's ceremony that the economic crisis which prompted the Army takeover was his Government's main priority.

"My own measure of our economic development will be based on such indicators as the availability of the essentials of life such as drinking water,

electricity, food and other such basic commodities in our local markets at prices within the reach of the lowest income earner in the country," he said, adding that traditional indices of economic growth and production did not interest him.

General Buhari repeated earlier statements that his government would stamp out corruption, fraud and waste which he said were the hallmarks of the administration of ex-President Shehu Shagari.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) quoted eyewitnesses as saying yesterday that the former President arrived in handcuffs and under military guard at Lagos airport from the northern city of Kaduna, where he had been taken after his arrest in Abuja, the projected future capital in central Nigeria.

His former Vice-President, Mr Alex Ekwueme, and several governors of Nigeria's 19 states are also in detention.

ABIDJAN: A Nigeria Airways plane left for Lagos yesterday, but the airline said that Lagos airport would still remain closed to most traffic (AFP reports).

Debt instalment paid, page 13

Genscher suffers broken rib in crash

Bonn - Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, broke a rib and suffered numerous cuts and bruises when his official car skidded on ice and overturned on a motorway in Saarland yesterday (Michael Binyon writes).

A spokesman for the Free Democratic Party, of which he is leader, said Herr Genscher was likely to be off work for several days and might not take part in the annual FDP Congress in Stuttgart on Friday.

Herr Genscher, the driver, who were both wearing safety belts, were injured but after first aid in hospital, the Foreign Minister was able to return to Bonn by helicopter.

Ershar offer of talks rejected

Dhaka (Reuters) - Opposition leaders have rejected an invitation from General Ershad, the Bangladesh military ruler to join talks aimed at returning democracy to the country.

Sheikh Hasina Wazed, chief of the Awami League and head of a 15-party opposition alliance, said there would be no talks until General Ershad lifted a ban on political activity.

Islamabad (Reuters) - Afghan authorities have begun distributing food, money and clothes to families affected by the earthquake which hit the Hindu Kush mountains. The earthquake, centred on the Pakistani-Afghan border on Saturday, claimed at least 12 dead in Pakistan.

Reporter killed

Rio de Janeiro (AFP) - A West German radio journalist, Karl Brugger, was shot dead outside a restaurant here by a man who tried to rob him. The attacker escaped. Herr Brugger, aged 41, had spent nine years in Brazil as correspondent for the ARD radio network.

Bus massacre

Maputo (Reuters) - As many as 60 bus passengers were killed in a Christmas Day ambush near Murrupula by guerrillas in Mozambique's northern Nampula province, diplomatic sources said. The gunmen ordered them out, stripped them and opened fire.

Banker resigns

Ankara (Reuters) - The Turkish Central Bank Governor, Mr Osman Siklar, has resigned. The move has been expected since Mr Turgut Ozal's Government took office last month. Mr Yildirim Akturk is expected to take over.

Kuwaiti six

Bahrain (Reuters) - A Kuwaiti woman has given birth to sextuplets, the Kuwaiti news agency reported. The four girls and two boys each weighed 2.2lb and were said to be in good health.

Kennedy ill

Washington (AFP) - Senator Edward Kennedy was said to be in a stable condition after being taken to hospital here on Monday night with gastroenteritis. It was not known how long he would stay in hospital.

Zulu ambush

Pietermaritzburg (AFP) - Three black policemen were killed in an ambush by 30 Zulus while they were investigating the theft of 100 goats near here. One of the owners of the stolen goats was also killed.

Jail protest ends

Nuoro, Sardinia (AFP) - Red Brigades prisoners who went on hunger strike last month at a top security jail have ended their action. They were protesting at prison conditions.

Jumbo rampage

Jakarta (Reuters) - Herds of hungry elephants are devastating crops around southern Sumatran villages despite efforts by farmers to drive them off by making loud noises.

Belgian scare

Namur (Reuters) - Two rabid foxes have been found in southern Belgium, causing fears of a rabies outbreak. Health officials fear the disease could be transmitted to farmers.

Train fired on

Paris (Reuters) - Shots were fired from a bridge near Paris at a high-speed train. Nobody was hurt but bullet marks could be seen on a window of the train.

Pipeline plan

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Union will put more than 7,450 miles of new gas pipeline into operation in 1984, the *Sovetskaya Industriya* reported.

Fatal refusal

Eirelat (AFP) - Yvonne Daussey, aged 66, strangled her husband, Joseph, aged 77, after half-a-century of marriage "because he refused to do the shopping", police said in this northern French coastal town. Mme Daussey said that she planned to kill herself but her nerve had failed.



Officer's humiliation: A retired Pakistani Army major, Ghulam Shabbir Shah, receiving a public caning in Karachi, after an Islamic court found him guilty of raping his sister-in-law. He was also jailed for five years

France denies pulling out of Lebanon

Paris (AFP) - France yesterday denied that its decision to switch troops from its contingent in the Beirut multinational peacekeeping force to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil) was a withdrawal from Lebanon.

Foreign Ministry and Defence sources described the move as a redeployment and emphasized France's commitment to the multinational force's mission as set out last summer: support of the legitimate Lebanese Government

and protection of Beirut's inhabitants.

The sources said the French contingent in Beirut would always be key at the level required to fulfil this mission. On Monday, France announced that at the end of this month 482 men seconded to Beirut from Unifil would rejoin their units in the south.

France is also saying that, while there is no question of withdrawal and a reaffirming of its full support for the peacekeeping mission, it would nevertheless be happy to find a

way of avoiding any prolonged stay of its Beirut contingent.

But, for the present, it was stated, French military strength in Lebanon remained unchanged, when taking into account French troops in both forces there.

The Defence Ministry said the size of the French contingent in Beirut had constantly varied between 1,400 and 2,000 men. At no time had detailed figures been listed for the troop levels and strength of the multinational contingents.

Leading article, page 9

Iraq signs peace pact with Kurds

Baghdad (Reuters) - President Saddam Husain has signed an agreement with the Kurdish rebel leader, Mr Jalal Talabani, for a ceasefire in Iraqi Kurdistan and broader autonomy for the 2.5 million Kurds in the area.

Diplomats yesterday said the agreement, signed last month, envisaged democratic elections to legislative and executive councils for the autonomous region in northern Iraq.

It also proposed the formation of a 40,000-member Kurdish army to "protect Kurdistan against foreign enemies" - meaning Iran, Iraq's enemy in the Gulf War.

Quoting Kurdish sources, the diplomats said Baghdad had promised to allocate 30 per cent of the state budget to rehabilitate Kurdish areas destroyed by the war in Kurdistan and to finance development projects in the region.

There was no official confirmation by the Government, but the diplomats said President Husain was expected to announce the agreement in an address to the nation on Army Day on Friday.

Nearly two decades of revolt by Iraqi Kurds ended after a 1975 treaty, under which Iraq agreed to share with Iran the Shatt al-Arab Waterway at the head of the Gulf. In exchange, Iran's late Shah withdrew support for the then Kurdish rebel leader, Mulla Mustafa Barzani. In 1977, the autonomous region in northern Iraq was created.

Barre hits back at critics in 'sniffer plane' scandal

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President and Prime Minister at the time.

The affair resulted in the loss of nearly 800m francs (about £70m) of public money in what now appears to have been a fraud.

The present Socialist Government is evidently delighted by its predecessors' discomfort: M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, did not seek to hide his exultation in denouncing the "naivety and irresponsibility" of those involved.

He said the Government would set up a judicial inquiry to establish whether the Italian and Belgian "inventors" of the "sniffer aircraft", Signor Aldo Bonassoli and Count Alain de Villegas, were "tranks or crooks".

The inquiry would also try to find out what became of 400m francs transferred to the inventors' company in Switzerland and never recovered.

M Raymond Barre, the former Prime Minister, who, with former President Giscard d'Estaing has been accused of attempting a cover-up in the oil detecting "sniffer aircraft" scandal, hit back yesterday.

He accused the Government of making one of France's greatest state-owned industries look ridiculous and of bringing into disrepute one of its most distinguished institutions, the Court of Accounts.

The Government had committed "a grave error" in deciding to publish the confidential report on the affair, drawn up by the Court of Accounts at the Government's request in 1980, he said in an interview in *Le Monde*.

The report, published on Monday, is highly critical of the state-owned Elf oil company's management and, by implication, of M Giscard d'Estaing and M Barre, who were

Tunisia's bread revolt

An aging leader, fragile economy and a country divided

Paris (AFP) - Tunisia, nestling between Algeria and Libya on Africa's north coast, has always been a stable, pro-Western Arab country, but efforts to bolster the economy and cut budget deficits - notably food price increases - led to the latest unrest.

The riots which began last Thursday in southern Tunisia and spread yesterday to Tunis and Sfax, the country's two largest cities, have been attributed to the doubling of the price of bread and large increases on other staple foods.

In 1983, the Government paid about 180m dinars (£164m) in price subsidies, more than 60 per cent of which went to cereal products. The Government has been discussing for months how to reduce these subsidies.

Tunisia, a country of 63,170 square miles and an estimated population of 6.8 million, has suffered from the world econ-

omies in 1964, it has represented the country's second largest earner of hard currency after tourism.

After a bad year in 1982, when the growth rate hit only 1.4 per cent, the economy was expected to expand by 4.5 per cent in 1983. That is respectable, although below the 6 per cent predicted by government planners. Inflation was kept to 3.7 per cent.

But the world crisis, rise of the dollar and drought, which affected many crops in the more fertile north, took its toll. The Government, since independence in 1956, has encouraged the development of the middle classes and industry in the north.

The problems began in the south, where date-growers complained that bungled marketing failed to move an abundant crop. This poor, under-developed desert area has been neglected in favour of the

north. And the people in the south were hardest hit by the price rises.

Since his nomination as Prime Minister in 1980, Mr Muhammad Mzali, has been trying to bring more prosperity to the south. But it is a difficult and long-term project. Traditionally, the south has been more restive - and more vulnerable to the machinations of Libya's Colonel Muammar Gaddafi.

In January, 1980, the southern city of Gafsa was occupied by armed opponents of the Government, said to have been infiltrated from Libya. There have been suggestions from observers in Tunisia and Paris that Colonel Gaddafi may have been behind the "bread revolt", but there is no evidence to support that.

The disturbances are the most serious since the three-day riots in January, 1978, which accompanied a general strike.

Army rulers find no favour with Fela

By Kenneth Mackenzie

The new military rulers of Nigeria will not be altogether surprised to hear that Fela is against them.

That is Fela Anikulapo Kuti, pop singer and composer, the idol of millions of young Nigerians and a musician with a growing international reputation. He has just completed a European tour (*The Times* gave one of his London concerts a rave review on November 15) and is in London to finish his latest long-playing record.

It should be added that Fela has 26 wives and a life style that is unusual, to put it at its mildest. He was also opposed to President Shagari's Government. He is opposed to governments.

Fela operates from a Lagos nightclub called the Shrine, which is always packed with people eager to hear his mixture of excellent rock music and rather confused revolutionary politics.

He has good reason to dislike military governments because in 1976 a previous military regime sent in the soldiers to break up the Shrine, brutally assaulting Fela himself and several of his wives and driving him into exile. Shortly before that he had declared his Lagos neighbourhood the independent "Republic of Kalakuta". The soldiers were not amused.

Fela had his clashes with the Shagari police too. He is immodest enough to think that his new record released in December, called "Perambulator" and strongly critical of the Government, might have stirred the soldiers into action.

Speaking more sincerely in his London hotel yesterday, Fela said he had been shocked to hear of the Army takeover. "What do they have to offer?" he asked. The people of Lagos knew well that the Army was totally corrupt and as inefficient as the civilians at the business of government.

He was not surprised at the lack of resistance anywhere. "People are afraid of guns," he said. "There will be soldiers in the streets, harassing people and beating them."

He foresaw more confusion, more corruption and Nigeria growing more bankrupt. If both

civilian and military government had failed, what was left for the country? "They must try Fela government," he said, laughing. Then more seriously, he said it was necessary to make the people feel they belonged.

Fela and his 26 wives are going back to Nigeria as soon as the airports open. There will be thumping music coming from the Shrine to test tolerance of the new military rulers.

Senator's welcome: Chief Francis Nzeribe, a Nigerian senator and chairman of the Nigerian-owned company Fanz, which is based in London, welcomed the coup (Tony Samstag writes).

In a message from London to Major-General Mohammed Buhari he said: "I speak for all Nigerians when I say that your takeover is justified and timely". The effects of Nigeria's "mismanaged, shattered and crumbling economy" had been "worse even than the effects of the Biafran civil war or any national disaster hitherto known in Nigeria".

Fela: Army no better than civilians at government



Fela: Army no better than civilians at government

Brunei exile to appeal

From David Watts, Singapore

One of the key leaders of the Brunei opposition party is to appeal to the Sultan, Sir Muna Hassanah Bolkiah, to allow him to return from exile now that the countercoup has failed.

Haji Zaini bin Haji Ahmad, once the "Minister of Economic Affairs" in the Parti Rakyat Brunei (PRB), Brunei people's Party, is prepared to return to

Brunei as a private citizen. About 20 followers of the party have been in detention since it was banned.

Four thousand PRB supporters staged an uprising in 1962 after it had won elections and then been prevented from taking power. British Gurkhas were flown in from Singapore to put down the unrest.

Today's Taste of Utopia December 31st

Today's joyful taste of utopia comes as the fulfilment of 1983. The Year of the Unified Field, bringing with it the promise of Unified Field Based Civilisation in 1984:

- United States and Soviet Union to resume high level talks.
- West German Defence Minister and Soviet Foreign Minister to meet.
- East German Head of State calls for NATO and Warsaw Pact countries to renounce military force and maintain peaceful relations with each other.
- Calm returns to Lebanese capital Beirut and surrounding mountains.
- Improving relations between China and Netherlands.
- "Ray of light" seen in U.S.-Nicaragua relations, says U.S. Secretary of State.
- U.S.A. offers economic assistance to nine Caribbean nations.
- This is only the beginning of the revival of Britain. Britain is now a country to rely on and a country with a future. We want men and women to set their hopes high and to carry them through into reality," says Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.
- Brunei to gain independence.
- Joint social and economic projects in Israel increase harmony between Arabs and Jews, bringing a rare moment of concord," says International Herald Tribune.
- Mozambique offers amnesty to dissidents.
- New government in Nigeria resolves to end corruption, solve economic problems and remove lack of food in country.
- New York State, U.S.A., introduces law to protect health of citizens by eliminating environmental pollution.
- Almost all major international stock markets close the year at or near record levels.
- Explosives discovered moments before loading on airliner in Istanbul.
- Astronomers expand knowledge of solar system using new technology.

Tomorrow's taste of utopia tomorrow... Maharishi International University, Fairfield, Iowa 52556, U.S.A.

Kremlin says the West must relent to make progress at Stockholm

There would be no hope of progress on arms control at the Stockholm conference, on January 17 unless the West changed its position, *Pravda* said yesterday.

In a lengthy headline denunciation of Nato *Pravda* gave no hint of Soviet readiness to return to the abandoned Geneva arms talks. The article blamed the United States for the breakdown, and said there was little point in Moscow returning to a negotiating table "which is now becoming surrounded by a palisade of rockets".

There have been conflicting signals from the Kremlin since Russia walked out of both the talks on medium-range missiles and the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (SALT), with some commentators hinting at flexibility and others taking a more rigid line. The official position remains that voiced by President Andropov at the end of November when he said Russia would only return if cruise and Pershing 2 missiles were withdrawn.

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The lack of authoritative statements since then has been attributed to Mr Andropov's illness and absence from political life. In a speech for the Central Committee plenum last week which he failed to attend, Mr Andropov made no reference at all to East-West issues.

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is to meet Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State at the Stockholm conference. Observers said yesterday's *Pravda* article indicated either that the Kremlin wanted to give a warning against high expectations before the meeting or that the Soviet leadership was unable to formulate new initiatives.

Pravda referred to a Supreme Soviet resolution last week calling for a "change for the better" at Stockholm, but said Moscow saw no sign that Washington was willing to compromise.

"Perhaps Washington has changed its mind, and decided to restore the situation which existed before deployment," Tass asked rhetorically. "But no, nothing of the kind. Perhaps an attack of conscience has made the Americans regret offering the Soviet Union totally unacceptable options? The answer is still no."

"The United States was not interested in agreement with Russia on nuclear missiles, nuclear tests, chemical weapons, conventional weapons or the military use of space," *Pravda* declared, adding "The Stockholm conference will show whether America and Nato are prepared to give a clear and businesslike reply to the Soviet Union's constructive proposals."

In a related development Tass yesterday gave warning that "not-headed strategies" in the Pentagon were planning to increase American missile potential in the Far East - and said secret negotiations were under way for the stationing of cruise missiles in Japan and South Korea. "But the Soviet Union will not be intimidated by American nuclear policies," Tass emphasized.

Row over church in cruise base

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Mr Angelo Rizzo, the bishop of Ragusa, Sicily, has been publicly criticized by a group of young priests for lessening the foundation stone of Roman Catholic church being built inside the American missile base at Comiso.

Father Giancarlo Griglio, who has a parish in Ragusa, said during the new year mass: "For us Christians it is an insult that inside the temple of Mars there should be the temple of God." Young people who struggle for peace and brotherhood, even if not baptized, were doing God's will and was with them, he added. Other priests made similar comments.

In reply, the bishop said that to reject a guest was a form of hostility. "We are very happy that Americans professing our faith can have a place of worship inside the missile base... these our brothers are men of the people."

They were, Mr Rizzo said, leaders who were at Comiso to help Europeans to have peace at home. The blessing of the foundation stone had been proved everywhere.

Russia accused of lying about aid

New York (NYT) - A British Government study of foreign aid contends that the aid given to developing countries by the Soviet Union is far smaller than the amounts the Soviet Union and its East European allies claim to give.

Russia, the study says, reported to the United Nations that it gave \$44bn (£30bn) in aid between 1976 and 1980. The study asserts that the actual amount of aid given was only \$8bn, a small proportion of the Soviet gross national product (GNP).

Soviet and East European aid generally compares unfavourably with that of Western donors.

Moreover, a large group of aid recipients receive "negative aid" from the Soviet block. Repayments on outstanding aid loans made by these countries are larger than the amount they get in new aid from the Soviet block.

The study was completed last May by the Economic Service of the Foreign Office and circulated privately among Western delegations to the United Nations. It was undertaken to evaluate Soviet statements, made to the UN's Economic and Social Council.

Kabul security fails to stop guerrillas

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Afghan rebels managed to break the overwhelming Soviet security in Kabul around the 20th anniversary of the Soviet intervention on December 27.

Over several days they sacked in the western district Silo, injuring 11 soldiers. They shot dead three Soviet soldiers in Khair Khana in the north-west, and an unexploded bomb was removed from the backs of flats largely occupied by Soviet officials at Microvion.

These incidents were reported yesterday by Western diplomats in Delhi, but one incident that was reported by the Afghan official news agency took place on the Sorubi district. The Bakhtiar Information Agency published a photograph on December 31 showing an electricity pylon which had been blown up by the rebels.

Because of what the diplomats describe as extremely tight security nothing more was accomplished on the capital. But the situation in the country's second city, Kandahar in the south, is very different.

According to recent visitors almost half of Kandahar has been destroyed, and scarcely a building remains standing. Fighting has been going on since the fighting started, and the bazaars close at 11am, after which Mujahidin guerrillas carrying their weapons can be seen wandering the streets.

On Christmas Day another visitor to the city reported that he had seen Soviet MiGs and helicopters bombing the built-up areas. According to diplomats in Pakistan the Afghan rebels seized the customs post on the Khyber Pass border with



Bangladesh expels more diplomats

Dhaka (AFP) - A second group of Soviet diplomats, declared undesirable by the Bangladesh Government, left here yesterday on an Aeroflot flight, airport sources reported.

The nine diplomats and their wives were due to leave on Monday afternoon but was delayed by the late arrival of the incoming Aeroflot flight.

Five diplomats left Bangladesh on December 26 after complaints by the Government that their activities were incompatible with their status.

The Foreign Ministry last month handed a list of diplomats to be withdrawn from Dhaka to the Soviet Ambassador. Earlier, the Government had ordered the closure of the Soviet cultural centres in Dhaka and Chittagong.

Russia used to have the biggest mission in Dhaka, with 36 accredited diplomats and another four in Chittagong.

Workers' clash foiled opening

Paris (Reuters, AFP) - An effort to reopen Peugeot's troubled Talbot car plant at Poissy was yesterday marred by scuffles between strikers and those who wished to return to work.

A handful of striking workers were cleared from the plant on Saturday by riot police without incident. This enabled maintenance teams to prepare for yesterday's planned resumption of production after nearly four weeks of stoppages.

Output at the plant, which produces 1,200 cars on December 7 by against plans to increase production to 16,000 a week, was resumed. Hundreds of strikers were patrolling the factory to prevent a resumption of work.

Hostility curbed by de

In the concluding article of his series on southern Africa, Michael Hornby considers how the black states of the region have responded collectively, and individually to the challenge posed by the last bastion of white power.

Divide-and-rule has been the guiding principle of South Africa's successful subjugation of its black population, helped in no small measure by the inability of the blacks themselves to unite. To some extent the same is true of South Africa's relations with the black states on or near its borders.

Their histories, economic circumstances, and degree of dependence on South Africa, as well as the political preferences and temperaments of their leaders, vary widely, making it difficult for them to present a common front to the white-ruled giant, beyond demonstrating a shared dislike of Pretoria's race policies.

At one extreme, Malawi, under the idiosyncratic Dr Hastings Banda, is unique in Black Africa in having full diplomatic relations with Pretoria and positively parading its South African connexion. The South Africans provided most of the initial financing for Dr Banda's new capital at Lilongwe.

At the other extreme, Zimbabwe and Tanzania refuse any formal political contact with the Pretoria regime, a policy of some risk for Zimbabwe, given its proximity to and close economic links with South Africa, but less painful for Tanzania, which has little or no trade with the republic and is too far away to feel threatened militarily.

In between, there are varying degrees of dialogue. President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has held summit meetings with both Mr P W Botha, the present South African Prime Minister, and his predecessor, the late Mr John Vorster.



Dr Banda: Parades the South African connexion.

states in the region vote regularly for trade sanctions against South Africa at the United Nations, knowing full well they could never apply them because to do so would cripple their own economies. But it is a safe gesture because the chances of the UN ever agreeing on sanctions are remote.

In Angola, De Beers, the diamond-mining arm of Anglo-American, the biggest South African mining concern, has almost total control over the country's diamond resources, Angola's second biggest earner of foreign exchange, most of which is spent fighting the South African-backed Unita insurgents and the South Africans themselves.

Mozambique and South Africa, despite their hostile

Boxer dies of brain damage

Italian bantamweight professional boxer Salvatore Laserra collapsing in the ring in Milan on December 10 after winning his semi-final bid for the National title on points. He died of brain damage on Monday. He had been in coma since the fight against Italian Marzio Lupino.

From Keith Dalton, Manila

At least 70 people were in a position to witness the murder of the Philippine opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, investigators said yesterday. But after three months of hearings, involving 48 witnesses, only three soldiers claim to have seen the actual killing, the general counsel, Mr Andres

Adoption racket smashed

Rome (Reuters) - Sicilian police have exposed a child adoption racket in which hundreds of couples paid thousands of dollars for the children of anonymous Yugoslav mothers.

At least 18 cases of suspected illegal adoption are being investigated and five people have been charged with criminal conspiracy.

Investigators believe infertile couples living in prosperous cities in northern Italy paid up to £8,250 for a child apparently to circumvent the cumbersome adoption process.

Cyprus peace offer by Turkey

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

Joining the new year peace offensive by the Turkish Cypriots, Turkey announced yesterday its decision to withdraw 1,500 more of the troops it has stationed in Cyprus since Ankara's military intervention in 1974.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman said the withdrawal, to be completed by the end of February, was intended "to contribute to the constructive efforts of the Turkish Cypriots aimed at the creation of an atmosphere of goodwill and mutual trust on the island".

He also emphasized Turkey's appreciation of "the hand of peace and the comprehensive set of goodwill measures" offered by Mr Raouf Denktas, President of the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" which has only been recognized by Turkey.

This decision, and the diplomatic, political and economic support pledged by Ankara to the new republic put Turkey's hopes for a continuing flow of economic and military aid from its Western allies in jeopardy.

The US Congress and various European forums have made their displeasure clear, and are now preparing to "review the progress of the issue".

While denying a coordinated move, the Turkish spokesman confirmed that the announced withdrawal was decided after "consultations" with the Turkish-Cypriot leadership.

Mr Denktas made a number of conciliatory proposals last Monday, aimed at persuading the Greek Cypriots to start negotiations.

Reiterating that the unilateral declaration of independence by the Turkish Cypriots did not preclude an eventual federal state, Mr Denktas offered to place part of the Varosha suburb of Famagusta under the jurisdiction of the UN peace-keeping force in Cyprus, to allow the resettlement of Greek-Cypriot refugees.

He also offered to permit the reopening of Nicosia airport, and to allow an international commission to start investigating the fate of Cypriots reported missing since Turkey's armed intervention.

The Turkish spokesman said that Turkey was not informed of the existence of "peace plans" drafted by the United States and Britain, as reported frequently by the Greek-Cypriot press.

Manhunt in Spain for Grapo police killers

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

A nationwide manhunt continued in Spain yesterday for the killers of two policemen in Madrid on Monday. The search remained centred on the capital and environs.

An anonymous caller telephoned various news media on Monday night with the message that Grapo (First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance Groups), carried out the assassinations in revenge for the fatal shooting of its former leader, Juan Martin Luna, who died in a gunfight with police in Barcelona 13 months ago.

Grapo has only five or six activists outside Spanish prisons, police said here yesterday. Initially both ETA, the Basque separatist organization, and Grapo were under suspicion for the Madrid killings.

Spain's most wanted man, 41, a mechanic from the southern province of Cordoba, who is thought to be the leader of Grapo.

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Rebel aircraft attacks Nicaraguan oil port

Managua (Reuters, AP) - Rebels launched an air attack on Nicaragua's Pacific port of Puerto Sandino, yesterday, the Defence Ministry announced.

An unidentified aircraft fired rockets at port installations, but there were no reports of casualties or damage.

Later, a number of speed boats fired on a Nicaraguan fishing vessel near the port, killing a seaman. Navy vessels pursued the boats, but they escaped.

The oil facilities of Puerto Sandino, 40 miles west of Managua, have been repeatedly attacked in the past few months by the US-backed Nicaraguan Democratic Forces (FDN), operating out of Honduras.

On Monday Nicaragua said 40 rebels died in an attack on the town of San Fernando, six miles from the Honduran border.

Between December 27 and January 1 there have been five clashes in the north of Nicaragua.

Aquino inquiry finds few willing witnesses

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Narvasa, told Manila-based foreign correspondents. He said as many as 50 soldiers and 20 civilians were in the vicinity of the China Airlines plane which brought Mr Aquino home from three years of self-exile in the United States to head the opposition in May's Parliamentary elections. He was shot dead - allegedly by a hired communist agent -

Mr Narvasa revealed that at least four plainclothes men, who followed Mr Aquino and his military escorts, were members of the Presidential Security Command.

Opposition leaders claim Mr Aquino was the victim of a military conspiracy. When asked whether there was a possibility of a military coup, Mr Narvasa said: "There is nobody enough to evidence should be. At least have links murder ar Mr Nar the board President's Marcos, an Chief Of S

After rumours that he was dying, President Assad of Syria reappeared this week with US presidential candidate Jesse Jackson. This is the first interview since his illness

The ailing fox fights back

by Michel Colomes and Mireille Duteil

With a very Oriental sense of discretion, Hafez el-Assad refused to specify the nature of the illness that has afflicted him. But certain details of his conversation, the length of his convalescence, the exercises that his doctors have prescribed and his somewhat stooped, shaky way of walking gave us the impression that he had been the victim of a heart attack. The patient is apparently well on the way to recovery.

The Syrian president received us in an ordinary livingroom, with crotone armchairs and large bay windows overlooking a garden. Twenty minutes earlier, a black Mercedes driven at breakneck speed by security agents had brought us to his villa, located about 15 kilometres outside of Damascus, in the Ghouta area, the "orchard of Damascus". Assad seemed to have been living here for the past two weeks.

At almost the very same moment, Palestinians loyal to Yasser Arafat were fleeing Tripoli under the protection of the French navy. Assad, who had forced them into such desperate straits, came to life again after an illness that cannot possibly have been merely "diplomatic". None the less, there is something odd about the coincidence.

On November 12, he disappeared from public view. The next day, he had been scheduled to meet with Amin Gemayel, the Lebanese president.

Aides of the autocratic and secretive leader first let it be known that the president had been treated for appendicitis. Two weeks later, however, there was still no news about the patient. An Israeli investigation came to the eminently unlikely conclusion that it was most unlikely that Assad should have had his appendix removed: that had already been done in Cairo in 1959. Although he is only 53, Assad is apparently a diabetic. Some observers suggested that, like another sick celebrity, Andropov, Assad could have heart trouble.

The intense interest in the health of the Syrian president is due to his emergence in June 1982 as key Arab figure in the Middle East conflict. The media dubbed him the "Damascus Fox" and the "Arab Bismarck".

He appeared badly hurt by the Israeli offensives which began in that month: the Israelis forced him to accept their cease-fire, and he was blocked from helping the Palestinians trapped in Beirut.

But Assad proved shrewd. He played on America's wavering, Gemayel's imprudence, Arafat's clumsiness and Soviet ambition. He managed to turn the situation around in less than 10 months. Even before the events of 1982, he had convinced the Soviets to go beyond merely replacing the equipment that had been lost. Wasn't he their only possible foothold in the Middle East? He unleashed the militias

of his Druze and Shiite allies against Gemayel, who had signed a peace treaty with Israel on May 13. He threatened the Lebanese president's shaky authority.

Assad launched an army of missiles, armed and supported by him, against Arafat, whose mistake was not to have sought Assad's protection. And, finally, he pushed the Americans into becoming entangled in a multinational force whose massive role was risky and untenable.

This is the lucky gambler, the inscrutable diplomat, the brilliant strategist at dodging and thrusting, who disappeared overnight. On December 1, we became the first western observers to see the president in more than a month.

Avoiding direct reference to the nature of his illness, he gave details of his regimen for recovery. He had lightened his work and taken two or three mild exercises twice a day. "I still feel young," he said. "But my body and my head don't permit me to stay as young as I like. We're all in the same boat, anyway. Everyone feels the physiological difference between what he was and what he has become."

Assad predicted he will resume his normal activity within a few weeks. "But in fact I never interrupted my activities. You know, in the final analysis, the main part of a president's job is to know how to use the phone. So I ran the country by phone."

While in hospital, Assad said, he called in the country's leaders. "As a matter of fact, that started many rumours about how I had set up a committee of five, or six, to run the country. I can't understand the basis of such rumours, since the country is run by five or six people anyway."

The burden of power is especially heavy for a ruler in the turbulent Middle East, but Assad expressed equanimity about the pressures. "Everybody knows that I work too hard. But that is how I was brought up. Working makes me both tired and happy. I asked my doctor, who wanted to force me to abide by a stricter discipline. 'You want me to be unemployed?' This year, during the May 1st celebrations, I was on my feet for eight hours straight. Today, the doctors tell me that this is no longer compatible with my state of health. The conclusion I have drawn is that next time, I'll stay for eight hours - but sitting down."

He professes optimism about the prospects of a second conference on Lebanon in Geneva. "We have always emphasized the idea of Lebanese reconciliation. The results of the previous conference in Geneva are very positive. If they were accepted the



President Assad pictured during the interview: recovering from a heart attack?

resolutions would provide for a reasonable solution."

But Assad says though certain points have been clearly defined, others have still been left open to interpretation. "The most important point on which a precise definition was reached is the agreement on Lebanon's Arab identity. For us, the issue is self-evident. It is as if the two of you had to get together in order to reach the conclusion that you are both French. However, in Lebanon, this was a real political problem. Luckily it was solved, which is all the more important since the May 17 agreement between Israel and Lebanon stripped Lebanon of its Arab identity. The second important point is that there is a consensus that this agreement does not further Lebanese unity and that the issue will be discussed again in Geneva."

Assad argued his case for Syrian presence in Lebanon by making a bold assertion.

"We may be divided into two independent states, but that does not mean that we are two different nations. And France is one of the countries that is most aware of this fact. When France exercised its mandate over Syria and its protectorate over Lebanon, it linked the two economies, most notably by giving them a common currency. I would even argue that the feeling of kinship between Syria and Lebanon runs deeper than it does between states in the United States."

We asked him about France's moral obligation towards Lebanon, and he answered by stressing that Lebanon is part and parcel of the Arab world. "It all depends on what you mean by moral obligation," he said. "If you mean a residue of the colonial period, then shouldn't the moral commitment apply to Syria as well? You can't compare today's France with yesterday's. New relationships must be built on a different basis. We have always said that we hope that France will play a more important role in the Middle

East. We have said this to the French leaders. But we have also told them that it must be a French role, or else a role within a European framework. If it is not, it loses its identity."

He was far less conciliatory towards the Americans. They have, he says, a "quasi-monopoly. And their troops have become combat forces in Lebanon, pitted not even against the Syrian state, but against factions, groups and Lebanese militias. Can you imagine. A superpower fighting local militias. And we know perfectly well that the Americans are trying to draw France closer into the web of the American-dominated multinational force. We have tried in every possible way to avoid confronting the French forces in Lebanon. But we have none the less had trouble with the French forces."

Assad was at pains to prove his intentions are honest. He said Syria received the secretary general of the French Ministry of Foreign Relations in Damascus "just after France had bombed some of our positions in Lebanon. Moreover, our newspapers never publicized the fact that the planes that bombed our positions were French planes. We simply spoke of planes belonging to the multinational force. We did, however, warn France through diplomatic channels that this type of action must not be repeated."

The danger of escalation with the United States was on Assad's mind. "We are fighting each other, but that does not stop us from meeting. Rumsfeld, the American envoy, was in Damascus a few days ago. I had told one of his predecessors: 'I can guarantee that we won't come fight you in your own country. But if you come into our country, we will fight you, of that I can assure you. I recognize the fact that you are a great power and that you have enormous means at your disposal. But our will to resist is just as enormous.' I do not wish to pursue this

confrontation with the US but I have no choice. When the Americans bomb us, we are forced to defend ourselves."

American interest in Lebanon was the object of Assad's scorn. "Lebanon is neither an economic power, nor an oil-rich power, nor a military power. So I don't see what interest it can have for the Americans. If it is a question of keeping the Soviet Union out of Lebanon, the Soviet Union is not in Lebanon, and never was present there, neither before nor after the Israeli invasion. If the aim is to do away with the Syrian presence in Lebanon, Syria, as I told you, has been at home in Lebanon for centuries. Eight years ago, we answered the call of the president of the Lebanese Republic and the heart-rending call of the Lebanese people. We paid our tribute of financial and human sacrifices to answer this call."

"If we had had a specific purpose in Lebanon, why wouldn't we have accomplished it long ago? If we had had an agreement with the Soviet Union to further Soviet interests in Lebanon, why wouldn't we already have implemented it? Finally, if we had had plans to attack Israel from Lebanese territory, why wouldn't we already have done so?"

What about the Israeli claim that the aim of their 1982 invasion was to bring peace to Galilee and stop the attacks against their own people by putting an end to the chaos in Lebanon?

"One can ask oneself whether Israeli security is more assured now, after the invasion of Lebanon. The Lebanese, who feel colonized by the Israelis, are resisting the occupation. I am convinced that the Israelis lost 40 times more men than if the internal situation had continued. The only thing that the Israelis have won is that more blood has flowed on their side, but also on the Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian side. Nobody in the world has made more sacrifices than we have to end the war in Lebanon."

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moreover...
Miles Kington

Now for the Galtieri Diaries

The festive period must have been ruin for many people by reading that General Galtieri was to be court-martialled on charges of murder, torture, etc. How could they do this to the ever-popular Morsk, guest columnist? Luckily, our late mailbag from the general shows that he still in good heart, and still anxious to answer your questions and problems. Or to you, General!

This court-martial, General. Is it really going to happen? And did you do all the things? Well, did you? - J. R. of Shepherd Bush.

General Galtieri writes: Yes, my fier this court-martial is really going to happen. But probably not in my lifetime. It is so important for the new government announce a court-martial. To have a court-martial is not so important. In fact, would be a mistake for the government. It would give publicity to my book.

What book? - J. R. again.

General Galtieri writes: My friend, nobody tell you? All big trials are men prelude to a best-selling book. My book to be called *The Galtieri Diaries*, with introduction by Adolf Hitler. It is inside story of the Malvinas War as I saw it day by day from the highest level, but the light of subsequent events must revision has been necessary.

Remember that in our country a court-martial is rather like the sacking of football manager in your country. I am Terry Neill of Argentina! You may surprised to find that I know a lot of cuttings service which gives me news from the world about military matters. naturally I am interested when I see headline: "Gunnery Lose Again: Heads Roll". Believe me, I know what it is like: one's gunners to lose again. Chin up, Ter. At least you are not under house arrest.

You haven't answered the other question. Did you do all those things? - J. R. again.

General Galtieri writes: I would love answer this, but alas it is *sub judice*. I have a saying in Argentina: a man presumed innocent until he disappears. What do you think about the news from Nigeria? - S.K. of Totnes.

General Galtieri writes: Yes, tremendous, is it not? The first big news of 1984 about generals taking over a country! It goes to show that progress is still possible. Out with corrupt civilians - in with honest soldiers. A lesson for us all.

You must have been asked this recently, but what do you think of George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-four*? - N.S. Newcastle.

General Galtieri writes: I first read it under the misapprehension that it was contemporary novel, and as such I found a sober, plain account of Argentina at the time. Since being placed under house arrest I have come to see it differently and I now view it as a chilling forecast of the future. What happens when you are placed under house arrest? - K.M. of London.

General Galtieri writes: Your house arrested and taken away, and when you come home, there is nothing there! Seriously, it just means that you are given guard to make sure nothing happens to you, which of course is a great relief.

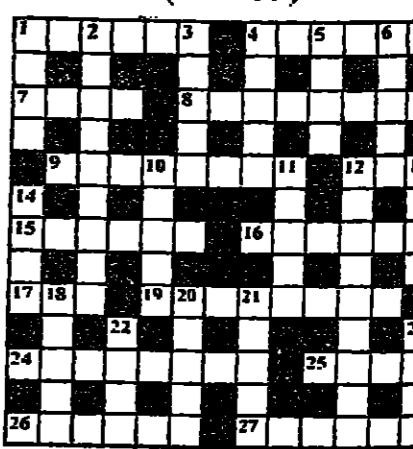
What did you get for Christmas? - C.J. of Bath.

General Galtieri writes: Very domestic things - a new pistol, a medal-cleaning kit, a polo stick with concealed sword, etc. Oh, funny thing happened which I must tell you about. My guard was opening up my Christmas presents for me, a matter security, and he came to a copy of Dan Jonathan Miller's *Pop-Up Book of the Body*. Well, pop-up books were a new concept to him, so when he opened it pages and it popped up at him, his immediate reaction was to fire back, so I pulled his gun and shot the book dead! Now have Jonathan Miller's *Lie-Flat Book of the Body*.

What are your resolutions for 1984? M.C. of Brighton.

General Galtieri writes: To move about very quietly. To look both ways when leaving the house. To spend a lot of tin with my lawyer. And to be ready an available when and if the government should change hands. Meanwhile, a happy new year to all my readers, and keep the letters rolling in!

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 239)



- ACROSS
- 1 Reiterate (6)
 - 4 Dismiss from job (3,3)
 - 7 Flower holder (4)
 - 8 Not guilty (8)
 - 9 Facial hairs (8)
 - 12 Snake-like fish (3)
 - 15 Layout sketch (6)
 - 16 Dais (6)
 - 17 Immediately payable (3)
 - 19 Gun fight (5,3)
 - 24 Adoption (8)
 - 25 Imprint vividly (4)
 - 26 Building floor (6)
 - 27 Shortcoming (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Speak angrily (4)
 - 2 Fast as possible (4,5)
 - 3 Deceitful plan (5)
 - 4 Passenger ship (5)
 - 5 Jagger (4)
 - 6 Stolen goods dealer (5)
 - 10 Breaks suddenly (5)
 - 11 Reconnoiter (5)
 - 12 Decorous (9)
 - 13 Not effective (4)
 - 14 Enthusiasm (5)
 - 15 Overture (5)
 - 16 Promissory woman (5)
 - 21 Lubricated (5)
 - 22 Peaty ground (4)
 - 23 Close (4)

SOLUTION TO No 238

ACROSS: 1 Bishop 5 Ruby 8 Hairy 9 Impass 11 Immodest 13 Idle 15 Theatrical 18 Coc 19 Sincere 22 Reading 23 Bacon 24 Ba 25 Yonder

DOWN: 2 Idiom 3 Hay 4 Painstakingly 5 Ror 6 Besides 7 Chain 10 Eggs 12 Dole 14 To 16 Focata 16 Scar 17 Teeny 20 Uncle 21 Si 24 Rin

Brushing-up on an artist who hid his work from the world

Nineteen eighty-four is likely to be the year when two leading exponents of German expressionist art in Britain finally begin to receive the recognition due to them in their adopted country. One of them, Martin Bloch, was the subject of a recent BBC television documentary. The other, Heinz Koppel, once a pupil of Bloch, will soon have one of his paintings hung in the Tate Gallery in London.

Bloch, who died in 1954, is the better known of the two. Koppel, though widely praised in the 1950s and early 60s, later withdrew from public view and, when he died in 1980, left more than 250 works hardly seen outside his studio.

"Koppel will inevitably come to be seen as an important artist," says David Fraser Jenkins of the Tate Gallery. "His work is undoubtedly brilliant and has found support from a number of us at the Tate."

Plans are being made for a Koppel retrospective exhibition. Fraser Jenkins has drawn up a tentative list of pictures which he hopes will be shown at a London gallery before touring the country. In a feasibility study for such an exhibition, Fraser Jenkins wrote: "A retrospective exhibition of Heinz Koppel is without question most desirable: not only is his work very remarkable and of high quality, it is little known..."

Heinz Koppel was born into a Berlin Jewish family in 1919. His commitment to painting began early, as his elder brother recalls: "He simply refused to do anything else. He had painting lessons with a White Russian named Fallieff who had settled in Berlin. I remember having to go with him because he was too young to cross the city by himself."

In 1933 the Koppel family fled from the Nazis and settled in Prague. Heinz declined to continue his formal education, but his interest in art remained strong and, in 1934 he spent some time in Italy with the Russian emigre artist Gregory Osheeroff, a family friend.



From left: Sir Cedric Morris; Heinz Koppel's "Street Band"; Koppel photographed in 1978 by his son Gideon

It was when he met Martin Bloch in London two years later that the course of Koppel's career was set. Bloch had left Germany in 1934 and, after spending some time in Denmark, had arrived in London and opened a school of painting. Koppel studied with him for almost two years and Bloch became the most important influence on his art.

By the early years of the Second World War, Koppel was already a painter, though he was still in his twenties. He taught at the Burslem School of Art, Stoke-on-Trent, and in 1942 one of his works appeared in an exhibition at the Modern Art Gallery in London. A period of convalescence in Wales (where his father had opened a factory after escaping from Czechoslovakia) that Koppel met the artist and teacher

Ernst Grainger, who ran community art classes at Pontypridd, and was introduced by her to the celebrated Sir Cedric Morris. "Cedric was always impressed by

a good painter". Esther Grainger recalls, "and Heinz was certainly that. Cedric had tremendous respect for his work." Koppel visited Morris's legendary painting school/commune at Benton End in Suffolk, and Morris later got him a job as painting instructor at the Merthyr Tydfil Education Settlement, in which Morris was closely involved.

Originally founded as an amenity for the unemployed during the Depression, the Merthyr Settlement continued as a means of relaxation and education for war workers and their families, and Koppel found himself teaching miners, factory hands, housewives and children.

To him there was no difference between amateur and professional painting, and by 1947 he had organized a successful exhibition of his pupils' work in Cardiff, under the auspices of the Arts Council. Some of his own paintings were included in the show, but so that there should be no distinction between pupil and teacher they were not identified.

During the next 10 years, the work of Heinz Koppel and of his students became well known throughout the country. The Settlement classes grew into the Merthyr Tydfil Arts Centre, with Koppel as principal, and the exhibitions moved out of Wales. In 1954, the art critic of the *Daily Worker* noted a show of the art centre's work at the Whitechapel Gallery in London: "The best works are based on real knowledge of Welsh scenes... technical blemishes... are outweighed by the abundance of fresh ideas."

Koppel's own work was also being widely seen. During the late 1950s and early 60s, there were exhibitions at the Glynn Vivian gallery in Swansea and the Kingly in London, followed by a series of shows at the Beaux Arts. Of one picture, a critic wrote that it "contains something of the power of true vision, as might an early Roualt; not pleasing to the many but the elect will be satisfied."

It seemed that Koppel's success was assured. Not only were his

paintings being seen, but they were also selling. One very striking work, "Merthyr Blues", went to a private collection in the United States, while others went to both private collectors and institutions in Wales, the Midlands and London. But then, as far as the public and critics were concerned, Heinz Koppel disappeared. Having taught at Camberwell and Hornsey, he moved to Liverpool to become senior lecturer in painting, and withdrew completely from the exhibition circuit.

"The bulk of his work", according to a study commissioned by the Welsh Arts Council two years ago, "has not been exhibited, not through lack of outside interest but through his own particular independence: he himself rejected a retrospective exhibition at the Camden Arts Centre."

For 15 years he worked in complete obscurity, experimenting with abstracts, geometric pictures, spray-paint and "construction paintings" using branches, Perspex, chain and chicken-wire. He laboured, too, on a monumental

work entitled *Picture Book*, an exploration in words and drawings of the perception of colour and shape and the expression of mental states through body language. The work of those years was seen by no one outside family and close friends, until in 1978 he allowed the Welsh Arts Council to publish *Picture Book* and mount a small exhibition at the Oriel Gallery in Cardiff. (He had left Liverpool in 1974 and moved back to Wales.)

The exhibition catalogue described Koppel as an important artist, crediting him with having influenced a whole generation of painters working in Wales. There were hopes that at last his work could be placed before the public again, but Koppel was struck down by a heart attack on December 1, 1980, and the great bulk of his work remains in his studio.

The 1981 study commissioned by the Welsh Arts Council concludes: "There should be contemporary interest in several of Koppel's preoccupations, particularly in the earlier and later in his career: in the relation between amateur and professional style; in popular subjects; in the abstraction of colour and line; in the depreciation of skill in favour of the imagination; in the pursuit of a human and hand-made style; in the search for an expression of psychological states..."

Either Grainger is wholehearted in her agreement. "You must remember," she says, "that his painting is not in a tradition with which the English have been comfortable. It is neither in the French tradition nor the English tradition, but stems from German expressionism, which even now the English find difficult. But the pictures are wonderful."

The Tate's David Fraser Jenkins emphasizes both the vibrant power of Koppel's expressionist style and the psychological significance of his later works: "I would call him an idiosyncratic genius."

David Sinclair

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY



Duet for Claricorde and Bullworker

New Year resolutions have much in common with children's Christmas presents: they tend to get broken by mid-January. Accordingly, I thought it might be instructive to compare the respective durability of my son's Claricorde and my own boring resolve to keep fit. The Claricorde, by the way, is a red plastic cylinder with gaudy keys - the product of a rash union between a harmonica and one of those old Triang engines. For £3.99 I could hardly have expected an oboe. Anyway, at the time of writing, the instrument is winning.

If Petronella has not figured in these entries for a while, that is only because she once again fled to her parents in Farnham to escape a liaison between her husband and the latest au pair, a riotously pretty blond from Stockholm. One of my other intentions for 1984 was to stop taking the mickey out of Petronella, but these things are sooner said than done. She is back in the neighbourhood now, plump, towelling tracksuit and all, and has been given a Jane Fonda workout book for Christmas. Apparently she has been overdoing things in the "Advanced Bootocks" chapter, and it is certainly true that she is making more like a pensioner than a superstar. But I really should not mock: my usually unreliable source in Orchard Road tells me that she (Petronella) has become pregnant to save the marriage. Given my knowledge of her, this has a terrible plausibility, and we must assume that the foetus is already down for Lancing.

A correction: when I said "keep fit", I meant nothing more than "get fit". Also, the resolution was not strictly of my making, but was foisted on me by the "gift" of a Bullworker. Since all presents carry with them an element of self-seeking, I must assume that my children are unhappy with my condition; that they think me ill-equipped for the business of jettisoning them to the ceiling in upturned stools or tossing them like bay baes into the winter sky over Richmond Park. They are right; these "games" are very hard work and I have often thought of feigning a rupture to buy some time off. It is not made any easier by having children who monitor each other's "goes on Daddy" with the vigilance of a weights and measures man. "Not fair, Simon had three moonshots" is a typical plaint. What worries me even more is that they may have been taken in by the Bullworker catalogue and that they will be asking for their money back (my money actually) if their father does not very soon come home with periorbital ligament ruggers balls and his shirt seams peeled open to reveal a trunk that glistens with embrocation. I predict another roasting in *Which Parents* magazine.

The clean aniseed taste of Florence fennel becomes less pronounced when it is cooked. A few thin slices are enough to alter the character of a big bowl of salad. But cooking softens the flavour of fennel that it makes an excellent vegetable in its own right. Braising is a good way of cooking it, though, as with celery, it must be carefully done or the result will be disappointingly watery.

Like celery again, fennel can be stringy. To remove the strings from the outer parts, cut not quite through the bulb at the top of each stalk so that the strings are still attached to the outer edge. Then pull the cut section towards the root, taking the strings with it.

Now for something completely different. This is not the weather for rabbit food and no one wants stodge either. Fresh, uncomplicated flavours would be nice, and uncomplicated recipes must welcome after the elaborate catering demands of recent weeks.

I realize that I have fallen into a rut of late with vegetables. It has been steamed sprouts or endive salad for a week or two now with not much variation. Must do better.

Any host too mean to serve Smirnoff will need to refer to this free handy pocket dictionary.

cheerful a. 1. (arch.) peasant person of low birth. 2. ill-bred fellow; (arch.) jolly or giggly person; hence - 'jolly a. 3. (ill-bred, arch.) jolly, (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 4. (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 5. (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 6. (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 7. (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 8. (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 9. (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 10. (OE root, = MLG *ker*, *ker* = man) cheerful disposition (OE *gast* = cheerful; hence - 'jolly a. 11. 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DIARYPolitical
screening

Newly-opened government archives for 1953 reveal that Shirley Williams (then Cailin) and Peter Parker (later chairman of British Rail) got on the wrong side of Winston Churchill. That May Churchill wrote to the BBC's Director-General, Sir Ian Jacob, to complain about political bias on television. The reason was the ubiquity of prospective Labour party candidates, especially Miss Cailin and Mr Parker, who were co-presenters of a series called *Our Concern* in the *Future and the Past*. Labour runners for Bedford and Harwich. The BBC hierarchy, ultra-sensitive to such charges at a time when independent television was being discussed by the Cabinet, insisted that it was more chance that Labour candidates such as Aidan Crowley and Norman MacKenzie were presenting programmes. As for Shirley and Peter, well they were on the screen because of "their outstanding qualities as representatives of the younger generation".

Interest rates

Eagle Star, all set to be taken over by the tobacco giant BAT, does not offer, unlike some other insurance companies, more favourable terms to non-smokers. "Each case is judged on its merits," says a spokesman for Eagle Star. "It might well be that a non-smoker is highly neurotic and thus in a bad state of health. Our policy is that if any smoker or non-smoker is in good health, they will pay smaller premiums."

Festive choice

As is now customary, the BBC sent off a batch of videotapes for Christmas viewing at Chequers. Included were *The Two Ronnies* - which the Prime Minister likes within the confines of the BBC format but not live at the Palladium, where she considers their jokes too blue - a programme about Sir Ralph Richardson, John Schlesinger's television film *An Englishman Abroad*, in which Alan Bates plays a drunken, vomiting Guy Burgess, and *Gandhi*. Sir Richard Attenborough's much-awarded film about the barely-clad man of peace.

BARRY FANTONI



Close season

Disinformation has struck already. Camden Arts Centre announced last month that "1984, An Exhibition" would open on January 1 and thereafter stay open from Monday to Saturday. Acting on this advice, we listed the exhibition under "Today's events" in Monday's *Times* and sent a photographer along to the arts centre. He found it closed.

● Appropriately in 1984, Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Way to Freedom* is now displayed in Hachards bookshop under "Travel".

Mite and might

Counsellors at Cruse, the national organization for widows and their children, have received hostile telephone calls from members of the public who think they are promoting nuclear weapons rather than comfort for the bereaved. A cruse is a jar for cooking oil mentioned in the story about a widow in the Old Testament. It should not be confused with cruse any more than should a missile with a missile.

Simply divan

The most romantic travel brochure for 1984 is Pullman Holidays' *Just for Two*... which offers everything a loving couple may require in the way of candle-lit dinners in Sorrento, a bottle of wine in your room in the Algarve and, if the brochure photographs are to be believed, very chaste-looking twin beds with hospital corners in Netanya, Israel.

Moral issue

Just before the general election, Roman Catholic priests in Frank Field's Birkenhead constituency received a letter from SPUC, the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children, which said that in the last Parliament he had voted against every attempt to change the law to stop abortion on demand, even voting against measures to stop abortion beyond 24 weeks. After the election, Field wrote to SPUC saying the letter was untrue and damaging and asking for a list of all the priests to whom it had been sent. He has since written twice more, but so far has received only an acknowledgement. "SPUC runs a moral campaign," says Field, "but its behaviour over this issue leaves something to be desired."

PHS

The key remand-cell reform

Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, explains how he kept his promise on prisoners in police custody

For some time prisoners in substantial numbers in police custody have been a problem. In 1983 the average number of such prisoners was 280, the record 626.

I have repeatedly said that the highly undesirable. Police cells built to hold such prisoners causes hardship both to the prisoners and their visitors, especially lawyers. Police resources are tied down.

That is why I decided last July to practice should cease and set the police as a target for bringing it to an end. It was a demanding target, and the measures were highly sceptical. Robert Kilroy-Gibson, who was then Home Secretary, welcomed the objective but asked: "Keep it? ... Something more important, more radical is needed."

The answer is that I do not think it to interfere with the penal process. I Kilroy-Gibson implies I should, by such measures as early release, amnesty, to effect a measure of release. None the less, by last Friday, all were cleared of remand prisoners to prison custody by the courts.

How was this achieved? The problem arose in the first place in the prospects?

The problem arose mainly in the South-east where the large number of unconvicted prisoners had increased in recent years. In the second half of 1983 there were over 300 more prisoners in the South-east than in the rest of the country. At the same time, key parts of the prisons have been taken out for essential repairs and renovation.

Government has now introduced nationally the biggest programme this century for the maintenance, rebuilding and extending existing penal estate. But while the programme goes on, it means we lose the use of accommodation, notably about 450 cells, holding more than one prisoner, at Wormwood Scrubs.

How, then, have we attained the target? I determined to avoid, if at all possible, simply shifting the problem by adding further to overcrowding in the prisons. Fortunately, we have been able to avoid this by bringing into use for sentenced prisoners accommodation which was either new or which could not be used to its full extent. This enabled unsentenced prisoners to be transferred to accommodation previously used by sentenced prisoners. It has involved radical restructuring of the functions of the London men's prisons.

Wormwood Scrubs is now the main remand prison for London, although certain categories of remand prisoners are still held at Brixton. One wing of the training prison at Coldingley, Surrey, is now used for

unsentenced prisoners from London. Also, some civil prisoners have been transferred from Pentonville to Ashford Remand Centre and some short-sentenced men sent to training prisons wherever space could satisfactorily be found.

Together with the seasonal drop in the prison population, these and other measures have enabled us to achieve our immediate objective of clearing police cells of prisoners committed to custody by the courts.

In doing this, the Prison Service has achieved an outstanding result at a time when the system had already been under strain. But the long-term task is not over. We must expect the prison population to rise, as it usually does, during the period up to Easter. The Prison Service is now engaged in the difficult and major effort of seeking to absorb these additional pressures.

We shall be gaining accommodation at Albany and Leazes prisons, and most importantly, the renovated A Wing at Wormwood Scrubs. We are also considering further possibilities for better use of existing accommodation. The position will certainly be tricky for a few months to come. I cannot exclude the possibility of using police cells again if exceptional circumstances arise.

I am confident, however, that once the immediate period ahead of us is over, our more long-term policies will begin to have effect. Our prison-building programme, the reduction of the minimum qualifying period for parole, the other measures designed to divert some offenders from custody; all of these factors should ensure that the routine use of police cells for prison overflow remains a thing of the past.

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Paul Routledge wins the election for NUM general secretary

Who will share Scargill's mantle of power?

The miners go to the polls in two weeks to choose a new general secretary for their union, and the election is increasingly being seen as a test of popular support for the left-wing policies of Arthur Scargill as his national executive.

The January 20 vote will be a secret ballot at the pithead, and traditionally high poll of around 15 per cent is expected. The ballot reaffirms the National Union of Mineworkers' long-standing commitment to the kind of democratic practices that the Government now legislating for the rest of the labour movement.

Derbyshire miners' leader Peter Heathfield is the odds-on favourite. John Walsh, aged 46, area agent in North Yorkshire, is campaigning a ticket of "negotiation not confrontation". He studied at Lee University with Scargill and argues appeal towards a broad-based approach that he could work with him. Scargill and seeks to isolate Kelly, a pitman from Walsby, who eschews labels but wants "balance" at the top in the NUM's leadership. Kelly is the only working miner standing in the election. With 49, Kelly is the only working miner standing in the election. Kelly is the only working miner standing in the election.

Heathfield has long been the choice for general secretary, a position which carries responsibility for industrial relations issues. His timing of the ballot has been deliberately engineered to ensure that he takes over from Lawrence Daly, who is retiring early at the age of 59. The winner of the election will take office on March 1. The vote in next day is Heathfield's fifty-first birthday, and under union rules would be ineligible to run.

This near arrangement is unlikely to tell against him. Heathfield is a popular figure in the NUM, forceful, articulate and even humorous public speaker at conferences and coalfield galas. But he suffers from a protest vote against nationwide overtime ban, now in its tenth week, and against the line, increasingly centralised by the president with whom he is closely associated.

Although the candidate of the left has a wider power base, being nominated by 11 of the coalfields, including such moderate strongholds as Nottinghamshire, Midlands, Leicestershire, Northumberland. He is, as Heathfield: left-wing but very much his own man.



striking a sympathetic chord among some of the men.

The miners of today are very different from the downtrodden generation that staged the strikes of the early 1970s. To begin with, fewer than half of the existing labour force actually took part in those convulsive struggles, which are more remembered in the talk of retired colliers in the miners' clubs than in the pithead polling booths. Today's coal face worker is a £9,000-a-year man with many of the bourgeois trappings that go with that kind of money. There is a more mercenary outlook in the industry, and it is therefore remarkable that the NUM has been able to sustain an overtime ban for nearly three months at a cost of up to £40 a week per man in lost wages.

Other factors are also at work. Many thousands of older miners have expressed a desire to take voluntary redundancy, worth up to £42,000 spread over the years to retirement age. They too may react against the implacable policy of the left of "no pit closures, no manpower reductions".

Lingering memories of Scargill's attack on the Polish trade union Solidarity at the last Labour Party conference could deliver votes to the Walsh camp, which is already expecting to draw a strong Catholic vote.

With two moderates seeking to exploit discontent with Scargill policies, there is an obvious prospect

that the anti-left vote will be split - as it was in the presidential election two years ago - leaving Heathfield a clear run. The only serious question being asked in the union is whether he can match the 70 per cent electoral landslide recorded by Scargill when he won the presidency.

What would a Scargill-Heathfield leadership look like? One thing is certain: it would be less of the one-man band than the union has appeared to be in recent months. It is said that Heathfield did not challenge Scargill for the presidency on the understanding that he would become general secretary. He is his own man, and would not be content to live in the Scargill shadow.

The union rulebook confers equal status on the two full-time national officials. Strength of personality determines who is first among equals, though it is unlikely they would engage in a futile battle of wills. Furthermore, as more than one occupant of the post has pointed out, there are actually three national officials: as well as the president and general secretary there is a vice-president, a lay office currently belonging to Michael McGhee, communist leader of the Scottish miners.

The election of Heathfield would create a left-wing troika not matched elsewhere in the labour movement. It would also be interpreted by them as a vote of confidence in the NUM's current industrial and political strategy.

Where Brezhnev failed, Britain steps in

Britain is quietly emerging as prime architect and mover behind the United Nations peace initiative for the Gulf war, potentially the national fold after a long self-dangerous of the world's confused exile.

which is now in its fourth UN mission to investigate, at Behind the ultimate goal of the war is the short-term aim of filling the void that exists in Iran's more open policy. The relationship with the West is reported that Iran's suffering from a counter-balance towards meeting one of Iran's demands for an end to the war, as and Baghdad have been magisterial.

More than 20 missions to Iran have been made since President Brezhnev to Yasser Arafat staunchly defended Iran in the Security Council. None has made much headway, most recent Security Council resolutions have been vetoed by the Soviet Union, which is the only country to have vetoed the UN Security Council's attempt to force Iran to accept a ceasefire. The UN Security Council's attempt to force Iran to accept a ceasefire. The UN Security Council's attempt to force Iran to accept a ceasefire.

In essence the French believability of the UN's revolutionary government affirming the right of navigation of the Persian Gulf through all waterways in the prospect of a ceasefire for itself. The language of the resolution while the British believe the certain to provoke Iran's Khomeini regime is becoming, although Iran had expressed an interest in finding a moderate.

closed-door session. Britain was eventually overruled by a majority. Despite their new relationship at the UN, Britain and Iran are still in dispute over the level of representation in each other's capital. Neither country has an ambassador to the other. The British Embassy in Tehran (one of the grandest buildings in the city, reflecting a time when Iran was very much within the British sphere of influence) now flies the Swedish flag. The minister there is the Swedish chargé d'affaires, British interest section, Swedish Embassy. A wing of the embassy was badly damaged by fire when it was stormed in 1978.

In London, the Iranian embassy has been a charred shell since the SAS rescue of the staff from the Iranian embassy in London. The Iranian embassy in London. The Iranian embassy in London.

It is this does not prevent their missions from carrying on commercial affairs. Britain's mission in Tehran is very commercially oriented. In the first six months of 1983 Britain's exports to Iran amounted to £330m, the best figures since the revolution. But this is merely groundwork.

If there is a ceasefire, which would allow both sides to rearm, the Iranians will be seen as a quantity of aircraft, tanks and guns. They are unlikely to buy Russian as they are not used to

Soviet equipment; they will not buy American and the French have ruined their chances by their pro-Iraq stance. The British are privately hoping the orders will come their way.

The debate on whether Iran's periodic show of interest in a peaceful solution to the war is real or tactical does not bother the British peace initiative at the UN. British diplomats there are said to believe that once Iran's government feels less isolated, its conciliatory messages may turn into practical measures.

The effort has received private encouragement from some Arab states which, while fearful of Iran's export of Shia fundamentalism, would not look forward, either, to an Iraqi victory which would allow the superpowers, which would not want either of these independent-minded and unpredictable regimes to become the local heavyweight. Neither the US nor the Soviet Union may have yet finally decided whether it is better to have them at peace or at war with each other.

If Britain's initiative against the war is to make headway it will have to encompass more interested parties than the bellicose spirits of Tehran.

Zoriana Pysariwsky and Richard Dowden

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Yes, managing director

The spectacle of horrid French milk being shipped back home will, I am sure, have given widespread satisfaction, and not only in the milking parlours of the West Country. For see much wrong with UHT milk; and if this French stuff is so awful that Mr Peter Walker's dogs turn up their noses at it (as he assured us was the case when he presided over Agriculture) then it is not immediately apparent why we should need the official analysts to protect us from consuming it. But the great thing is that we are paying off the French in their own coin for once.

Trust the French, we are regularly told, to permit Japanese videos to enter the country only through Poitiers, to the discomfiture of French importers, and to no tangible advantage to any French producers, since they don't make videos, but no matter: they know how to bend the rules, whereas we are the suckers who always play the game. Well, not as far as milk is concerned. Hurray!

One person who will not, apparently, be joining in the congratulations to Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, is Mr Christopher Hogg of Court-talbot. If all the members of the cabinet had textile mills instead of farms, he reckons, "they would have a completely different set of priorities." Perhaps, but then that would not be followed.

Many years ago, when the late Ernest Marples was Minister of Transport, I had to accompany a party of visiting French parliamentarians on their way from Heathrow to central London. We passed a hoarding announcing that the firm of Marples Ridgeway was undertaking improvements of a section of the motorway. The French were fascinated. "Even in France," they exclaimed, "they wouldn't allow that." I hastened to assure them that Mr Marples had had to dispose of his shares in the business which bore his name before he took up office. I am not sure they believed me; and if I had added that had Mr Marples's interest been in a farm instead of a construction company, he could have kept it and taken any post on offer, including that of Agriculture, no doubt their scepticism would have been reinforced.

There are all sorts of plausible explanations for the special exception to the rules governing ministerial interests made in favour of farm ownership. But that it may occasionally encourage what Mr Hogg calls "complacency and comfort" towards the farming industry might be difficult to gainsay.

It is not, however, the only blurred area on the rules concerning potential conflicts of interest in Whitehall. As an aid to digestion over Christmas I have been re-reading the report which the Commons Treasury Committee produced three years ago about "Acceptance of outside appointments by Crown Servants". The committee drew attention to the fact that during the eight years to 1980

former civil servants had asked permission to take up more than 500 appointments in business and only nine had been turned down.

It was also concerned that the special vetting committee which advises the Prime Minister about applications from the most senior public servants was made up of a former Labour cabinet minister, an accountant, a former Tory cabinet minister who happened to have spent long years as a civil servant, a field marshal and two former top mandarins.

The committee felt this was all a bit too cosy. It quoted a comment by Nicholas Ridley, the present Minister of Transport, who had claimed at a session of an earlier select committee that he had once been given "biased advice" by a civil servant who had been "promised a job after retirement". It suggested that, among other things, it would be reassuring if parliamentary select committees could, on request, be told in confidence - about the grounds which had led the vetting committee, or ministers, as the case might be, to approve or reject a particular application. It also suggested that the vetting committee should cease to contain "a preponderant number of those whose main careers have been in the public service"; and that there might be legal penalties for businesses which took on former public servants without the proper clearance.

Whitehall, it seems, was not amused. The late Lord Armstrong, grandest of all the mandarins of the 1970s vintage, had warned the readers of *The Sunday Times* that "if prime ministerial dictatorship could force a retiring civil servant not to take a particular job, no one would ever join the Civil Service again". The then Minister of State for the Civil Service, in his evidence to the committee, did not go as far as that. He trotted out the familiar line about the contribution which those "with experience in public administration" could make to commerce; and he pointed out that if the worry was about ex-civil servants abusing confidential information, "as I think it must be", then that applied to former ministers as well.

But - as the committee clearly implied in its report - that is not the real worry at all. The real worry is the one that Nicholas Ridley put his finger on: that senior public servants may be encouraged to tip their hats to potential sugar daddies by the award of post-retirement favours to those who went before them. And to that there was, and remains, a deafening silence.

The committee did, it seems, receive a planned and nugatory reply of sorts to its report from the Government. But this was never published; and nothing more has happened. Now that the Treasury and Civil Service Committee has at long last been reconstituted it could do worse than pick up the dossier for a new - and perhaps a wider - look. *Quis custodiam custodes?* remains a pertinent question.

Paul Jennings

No hand signals, writing a funny

There is something fundamentally touching, a rudimentary desire to reach out and communicate, about those legends you see on car windscreens, usually the names of couples such as Bert and Cheryl or, as saw the other day, Kevin and Vacant.

No doubt you can buy the stick-on letters at any accessories shop, and it is of purely personal significance that the only place where I have ever actually seen them displayed for sale was a garage near Trieste. It did seem more natural, in that land of smiling communicators, that Luigi and Dorabella, or Paolo and Francesca, should want everyone to know them at least by name.

As it happened, we were on our way from making a tremendous error of communication with the Mahler Second at Bolzano, in their splendid cathedral, to making no communication with it at all in Trieste in a strange open-air semi-castell.

The musical folk of Trieste are seldom, if ever, impressed. And Mahler, *al fresco*. In some place like a Tesco. It will certainly not pass the test - not even if our coach had John and Elaine and Hannah and Ron and John and John and Kate and Fiona and Peter and Nella and Heidi and so on, round all the windows about three times.

Of course music is the communicative art, and it would be fun to escape from the loneliness of even the short-distance motorway to some such legend as *Tristan and Isolde*, or *Daphnis and Chloe*, or *Acis and Galatea*. (My friend the tenor Neil Jenkins swears that once when he was in a performance of this ravishing Handel work in America the posters said *Acis and Galata*, and lots of blue-rimmed ladies turned up very indignant that there wasn't any tea, gala or otherwise.)

What does seem extraordinary is that in this age when there is so much sophisticated electronic and other gadgetry available, these letters are as far as we have got in spelling out any kind of message to other motorists.

As a matter of fact the windscreen would not be the best place for them. It is really at the rear or sides of the car that one would like to cause messages to appear in those rather beautiful, official-looking letters, whether by electronic or purely mechanical means, something analogous to that awful roller-blind thing that comes down at the back of police cars that nip in front

of you after following you for three miles and says *Police Stop*.

I am not thinking of the merely angry messages that all motorists at some time wish to send to a green arrow here, not a round red light, get on with it, or Come on you old fool stop wrestling with the gears, or Don't give a signal, you will; or All right cowboy, go on and kill yourself. All these messages can be conveyed by simple facial expressions or appropriate gestures.

I am thinking of more complicated but necessary messages, messages that would explain situations, defuse crises - in short, communicate. For instance, I often want to get to Suffolk from Tottenham Court Road. This means turning right at the end of it into Euston Road, and before I get to the next lights I simply have to merge into the solid stream coming up from the underpass (which is composed almost entirely of taxis) otherwise I shall be forced to turn left into wild, unknown Camden or Kentish Town territory. How I wish I could display the legend *Please let us, in going to Suffolk*.

Knowing how impatient I get with people who can't drive at a constant speed, how I now wish I had been able to explain my own recent speedings and slowings by a sign at the back: *Sorry, damned alternator red light won't go out, something wrong there, battery not being charged, but can make it go out if take it by surprise, vary engine speed, declutch then rev up like lunatic like this; probably only brushes, but blighters won't sell just new brushes now, probably means whole new alternator*. This would be rather a long message, but in a crowded street the man behind me would have plenty of time to read it before finally being able to pass me.

Then there are things like *Sorry, stranger to area, where the hell is Paterson Avenue, isn't it maddening the way they put street names facing the way you've just come not the way you're going?*

Or *Look, I'm not going to scrape your nearside wing, there are two lanes here, if we all did this the traffic would move twice as fast wouldn't it?* And (too often in my case) *Handbrake only works on last notch, if there even though big service only month ago, I'm afraid snow at last, and-toe hill take-off but please forgive if I stall*. Well, it would be more fun than Bert and Cheryl.



LEBANON'S VICIOUS CIRCLE

The turn of the year has been marked by renewed and audible jitters about the future of the Multinational Force (MNF) in Lebanon among the political elites of the participating countries. In Italy President Pertini has twice made public his personal view - he charmingly disclaims the intent "to exercise any sort of influence on the government" - that the Italian contingent should be withdrawn. In the United States the Pentagon report on the October 23 disaster (in which 241 American marines died) has advocated "reexamination of alternative means of achieving United States objectives in Lebanon"; three former directors of the CIA and Mr Walter Mondale have promptly followed suit.

The French Government, while constantly proclaiming that its commitment in Lebanon is unchanged and unflinching, managed to precipitate three days of fierce fighting in Beirut by its untimely handover of two sensitive positions to the Lebanese army on Christmas Eve, and has now announced the "reallocation" of 482 soldiers from the MNF to Unifil, the United Nations force in south Lebanon which has had no obvious function since the Israeli overrun its positions in June 1982. Meanwhile in London Mr Denis Davies, shadow Defence Minister, has called on the government to summon an urgent meeting of all four MNF countries to consider withdrawal.

None of the four governments concerned is actually on the point of withdrawing, but all four would dearly like to get their forces out if they could do so with honour, and are desperately hoping that circumstances will permit them to do so before too long. That is nothing to be ashamed of. No government can be expected to enjoy exposing its troops to the kind of risks they

are running in Beirut, or can find it easy to explain to public opinion at home exactly what they are achieving there. Pressure for withdrawal is bound to increase so long as there is no clearly defined common political strategy within which the MNF can operate. It is becoming more and more obvious that at present no such strategy exists.

The immediate task of the MNF is "to assist the Lebanese government and the Lebanese armed forces in the Beirut area"; its broader purpose is to help the government recover full sovereignty over Lebanese territory and secure the withdrawal of all foreign forces. But this latter mission has always been conceived by the participating powers in political rather than military terms. They are not prepared to undertake the task of expelling either Israeli or Syrian forces from Lebanon *manu militari*. The hope is, or was, that the presence of the MNF would help to create political conditions in which Syrian and Israeli withdrawal could be obtained by diplomacy.

Among those conditions the all-important one is the existence of a Lebanese government capable both of enforcing its authority and of articulating a genuine Lebanese national will. That condition remains unfulfilled, and many people have become convinced that it is unfulfillable so long as the foreign forces are there. If that is accepted, Lebanon is caught in a vicious circle from which there is no escape, and the MNF participants should face up to a stark choice between forcible "liberation" of the entire country, followed by an occupation of undetermined length, and pulling out to let partition take its course. Given the enormous cost and unpredictable consequences of the first option, there can be little doubt that they would choose the second.

The Lebanese parties must be

well aware of that. It is up to them if they wish to avoid partition (or to reverse it, for many aspects of it are already there) to prove the premise wrong. Two months ago they seemed to be making a start when their leaders met in Geneva and agreed that Lebanon was an Arab country. That may seem like stating the obvious but, as the Syrian president says in the interview which we publish on another page, it had become "a real political problem". In his view, shared by some of the Lebanese, the May 17 agreement with Israel "strips Lebanon of its Arab identity" because it amounts to a separate peace with Israel.

As matters stand, Israel will not withdraw if the May 17 agreement is not implemented, and Syria will not withdraw if it is. The Lebanese leaders at Geneva sought to break this deadlock by seeking Israeli withdrawal on terms which would guarantee Israel's military security on her northern frontier ("peace in Galilee") without requiring political concessions that Lebanon by itself is not strong enough to make. President Gemayel was supposed to enlist the help of Washington in this enterprise, but by the time he got there he had apparently lost his nerve, for he announced that he had come to discuss the "implementation" of the May 17 agreement. Not surprisingly, that was seen as a betrayal by those with whom he had negotiated at Geneva, and so far he has not been able to reassemble them for another round of talks.

Yet those talks remain the only hope of bringing the MNF mandate to a successful conclusion and it is vital that they resume soon. The May 17 agreement is not an end in itself; it was intended as a means to the end of bringing peace to Lebanon and security to her neighbours. If that end can be better served by other means no true friend of Lebanon should object.

MUCH TOO GOOD TO DISCARD

Of all the multifarious services and disservices lavished on the citizens by the Greater London Council, there is perhaps only one which attracts no censure, raises no partisan hackles, and basks in praise from every side. But while the Government's plans to reorganize metropolitan government seem likely to leave some of the most controversial civic empires relatively intact, the inoffensive and irreplaceable GLC Historic Buildings Division is threatened with being dismembered and scattered into thirty or more fragments.

It is true that the division did not fit easily into the Government's plans, as expressed in last October's white paper, to "streamline" metropolitan government by a procedure modelled on that by which Henry VIII streamlined Anne Boleyn. The division is anomalous through and through, cutting across administrative, territorial and conceptual distinctions in a way which could only have been evolved, never invented. But it is acknowledged to be one of the great successes of British scholarship and town planning, and the factors which make it so seem inextricably connected with its hybrid nature.

At the outset it was a chronicle body - but more than that, a campaigning chronicle. The very first volume, published in 1900, of its monumental Survey of London in-

sisted that it sought to "stimulate the historical and social conscience of London" about the thoughtlessness and greed which were destroying its heritage of historic buildings. In the years since then - for the Survey is not yet half completed - its interpretation of that task has grown steadily deeper and more complex. Secondly, as servant of a council which is owner and occupier of 1,000 listed buildings of all periods, it has built up the diverse specialist skills needed to service them. Thirdly, its pre-eminent experience in its own field caused the Government in 1968 to give it most of the statutory powers over historic buildings and areas that are exercised elsewhere by the Secretary of State.

To discharge this triple function the division has developed into an organization with about 40 professional specialists, which has no equal anywhere in the country. In effect it is the principal institution in Britain for specialist training in these skills, and its standing gives it an informal leading role in the interchange of knowledge with the relatively limited civic bodies existing elsewhere. These aspects of its activity give it claims to be regarded as a body of national significance (over and above the national significance of its work in London itself). The interplay between its

three roles is at the heart of its special effectiveness. The Survey is not a labour of detached scholarship, but a working document serving the division's role in conservation and its use of its development powers. Its London-wide scope gives perspective to its judgments.

The white paper took just ten lines to sort out this irritating side-issue. The Survey would go to the Historical Monuments Commission, whose labours of detached scholarship elsewhere in Britain have long been the dull foil against which the Survey shines so bright. The planning control powers would go to Whitehall, and all the rest would pass to the boroughs, to be sustained as efficiently as the resources and interest of each borough might dictate.

There is no comfortable place in the plans for any solution safeguarding the division's special virtues, though retention under a joint board, partly elected and with pre-emptive powers, might provide the basis for a reprieve. But the implications go wider: the fact that the division could be so cursorily treated as no more than an egg that had to be broken to make Mr Jenkin's civic omelette indicates the superficiality of a plan that scarcely acknowledges London as an entity or gives thought to the needs and nature of metropolitan areas.

CHILE HITS ROCK BOTTOM

In recent weeks General Pinochet has faced mounting criticism of CNI, his security agency. His new copper law has been denounced as an anti-national gamble. His plans for a slow return to incomplete democracy appear as yet another attempt to restrict the opposition to a manipulable formula: whatever their intentions they are clearly unwelcome. One concession - the regularisation of political activity next year - is not much more than a recognition of what has already occurred. There has been increased terrorist activity, though it is not clear from what quarter, and now comes new anti-terrorist legislation. The extreme left has decided that only violence can remove the regime.

But some things still favour the General. The opposition is still divided. It cannot agree on a leader, and there is still rivalry between some of those recently returned from exile. Nor can it agree on policy towards the Communist Party (which was by no means the most extreme element in Salvador Allende's government of *Unidad Popular*).

Some wish to include the Communists in a wider Democratic Alliance, some to give them some participation and others to give them no share at all. These divisions go deep, and the government exploits them.

Nor is the opposition united on the destiny of General Pinochet himself. Should he be allowed to go now, or should he be allowed a period in which he might reign rather than rule? Many on the right who are unhappy with the economic policies of the "Chicago Boys" remain content with General Pinochet himself as the symbol of law and order. Acts of terrorism will only confirm them in their loyalty.

If the failure of an economic policy necessarily destroys the government responsible General Pinochet would have left the scene some time ago, but one of his strengths may now be that the economy has hit something like rock-bottom and cannot fall any further. His government appears to have no formula for recovery, and few other countries even today can show such eloquent figures of recession and

crisis: a third of the work force unemployed, gdp down by 14 per cent, industrial production nearly one third down on 1971, a banking system in complicated ruin, and a foreign debt of \$18,000 million. What has survived this catastrophe may well be capable of surviving anything, and in that sense the worst may now already have occurred. Chileans are also aware that their country simply does not have the economic weight to strike hard bargains with the rest of the world. Chile's foreign debt is proportionately the largest in Latin America but in absolute terms relatively small.

Poor economic relations with Argentina were one cause for muted Chilean reaction to the victory of Señor Alfonsín. There are also fundamental differences between the Chilean and Argentine armed forces. In more than a decade General Pinochet has faced no significant challenge from that quarter. His strictly military intelligence is said to be very good. But his problems are clearly mounting and will not be contained by anti-terrorist legislation alone.

US withdrawal from Unesco

From Mr W. A. C. Mathieson
Sir, As the British national elected by the General Conference in a personal capacity to be a member of the executive board of Unesco from 1984 to 1974, I wish generally to endorse your comment (leader, December 30) on the United States declaration of withdrawal. But it is facile to load the blame on the Director-General. He is the servant as well as the guide of member states.

Mr Mbaw would not claim to have inherited the brilliant intellectual arrogance of his predecessor, René Maheu, but he is an honest, sensitive and thoughtful man. The balance of his judgment may have been affected by the synchopancy of those he incautiously employed. However, the quality of the programme of the organization depends more on the purposeful input of delegations than on the pre-conceptions of the secretariat.

The final disenchantment of the United States is more attributable to the abysmal quality of its representation in the 70's than to the hostility of the third world. Yours faithfully, W. A. C. MATHIESON, 13 Sydney House, Woodstock Road, Bedford Park, W4, December 30.

Balance of arms

From Mr Peter Foster
Sir, The nuclear debate continues to go round in circles. In the light of Professor Neild (December 19) on Ronald Butt (feature, December 15) may I offer the following simple propositions:

- a) If Nato were technically and financially able to upgrade its conventional defence against a possible conventional attack by the Warsaw Pact, that would desirably raise the nuclear threshold.
- b) But it would not dispose of the need for nuclear deterrence, because no non-nuclear power or alliance can resist a determined nuclear power without its own credible nuclear back-up.
- c) The deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles - a European-based intermediate-range response to the Soviet SS20s targeted on Western Europe - is necessary to reinforce the credibility of American nuclear support for Nato.
- d) The ideal solution would be a rough conventional balance (by an enhancement of Nato's defensive capability and/or a reduction of the Warsaw Pact's offensive potential) together with the abolition of nuclear weapons worldwide.
- e) Realistically, all we can hope for in the foreseeable future is a mitigation of Nato's conventional inferiority, so reducing its dangerous dependence on early recourse to a nuclear counter-strike, accompanied by a balanced reduction, if possible to zero, of both the Warsaw Pact's and Nato's INF (intermediate nuclear force) armories and a similarly balanced reduction of Soviet and American strategic (intercontinental) armories.

As I understand it, this is precisely what our much-maligned American friends are trying to achieve. Yours faithfully, PETER FOSTER, Rew Cottage, Abinger Common, Nr Dorking, Surrey, December 20.

Threat to woodlands

From Mr Quentin C. B. Cronk
Sir, Your Agricultural Correspondent today (December 22, 1983) notes the publication of Mr Richard Grove's book *The Future for Forestry*. Mr Grove comments on the increasing destruction of ancient woodland and the deteriorating relationship between forestry and nature conservation. He also adroitly exposes the "grants merry-go-round" which leads to the frittering away of Government money in tying the hands of conservation bodies. At least since the publication of Dr Oliver Rackham's book, *Ancient Woodland*, we know that such woodlands are not only important archaeological remnants of medieval woodland rich in flora and fauna, but that they are impossible to recreate artificially.

It is not time seriously to consider "planning controls" for the countryside which will prevent Government-aided destruction of sites of best interests of the nation, either by the Forestry Commission or other financially interested parties? Yours truly, QUENTIN C. B. CRONK, Leckhampton House, Grange Road, Cambridge, December 22.

Fitzgerald's initiative

From Mr James Boyes
Sir, Many will have been encouraged by Dr Garret Fitzgerald's article, "Terror: let's fight it together" (December 23). Never before has a prime minister of the Irish Republic spoken out so decisively against the enemy which Ireland and Britain now share in common. His plea for a united front in the face of terrorism that now threatens Ireland as much as Northern Ireland is a significant step forward, and a refreshing change from the Irish prime minister's previous attitude of policy of maintaining contacts with the IRA and Sinn Féin. But Dr Fitzgerald's initiative could be more than a timely response to an immediate threat. Could it not be the beginning of a way forward toward an ultimate solution of the whole Irish problem? It is generally acknowledged that

Upholding

From the Chief of Salvation Army

Sir, One of the landmarks in social history was the age of consent at 16. Any of our predecessors as Army's Chief of Booths supported the campaign. Parliament wisdom and courage protect young people themselves, but exploitation of other people in this area is a grave cause for concern. The fact that the age of consent is now 18 is a positive achievement, but because of any of the needs of young people, the experience ranges from a cross-section of society to a cross-section of the family. One of the lessons of Eliza Armstrong setting the age of consent at 16 was the focus on the parents in the matter. This same point must be remembered.

One need hardly that parental care is generally satisfactory. We believe the principles involved in consent will do much to emphasize in our responsibilities to children to each other that raises a question over contraception is but the tip of highlights one of problems of our society.

Future of Air

From the Chairman of the Air League

Sir, I am writing arguments of the Society of British Airlines in his letter December 12 support project.

European aerospace in the forefront progress, despite air and deploying resources compared. There is, therefore, a European industry knowledge, the skilled manpower structure needed to manufacture and complete technology best the US industry. There is a distinct A320 project de-the-across-the-board the UK aerospace particular the design and engineering of Europe, and in the UK aerospace industry one of Europe's major.

Indeed, this is one in a labour intensive Europe will face competition from other countries and only limited.

Naval priorities

From Vice-Admiral Bailey

Sir, I write in response to the Defence Correspondent's "Navy has an admiralty" (December 19), December answers given in the House of Commons.

It is wholly mistaken without qualification to senior officers in the fighting Services who are sailors, soldiers and airmen. The Army is labour-intensive, capital intensive. Air Force probably where in between, sending, as it does, country's young men in highly sophisticated machinery.

There is another far greater extent to two services the designs its own shipbuilding, civil engineering, and maintain these. As a Deputy Director, would have been suggested that, as the other Assistant Director, sailors serving us should have been lieutenants.

Speaking for myself, I doubt that such a design that I did, ranking colleagues was not only a small but detailed criticism an enormous fund based on a fascinating major and minor details.

Preserving buildings

From Mr Douglas B. Hague

Sir, Mr Clive Aslet (December 23) makes a reasonable point, and there were people before buildings, but nevertheless one must avoid mawkish sentimentality. Here in Wales, when involved in any attempt to save a building, a considerable body of public support can be assured if it can be established that a Welsh hymn has been composed within its walls. Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS B. HAGUE, Maesglas, Llanafan, Aberystwyth, Dyfed, December 23.

THE EDITOR

Consent on age of consent

Great attention has been given to the potential increase in abortion rates that might occur in the event of a change in the law. But even if it did happen we believe that it would be a small, and perhaps even temporary, price to pay for ensuring the greater involvement of parents in the matter.

We need to consider the possible consequences, but concentration on seeing the positive that could emerge from strengthening the very fabric of society in this way. It is imperative that we recognize that once again we stand at another landmark in the social history of our nation.

With the introduction of a year ago of self-certification of fitness for work, the medical profession revised its involvement in employment relations and it seems that commerce and industry have benefited. We might profit from that experience and relate it to another relationship - that between parent and child. As with self-certification the medical profession might assist parents as a whole and family life in particular by standing back, not altogether - just a little, in order to clarify and strengthen the role of parents.

Parents may find it difficult within an atmosphere of freedom to assume responsibilities that are placed upon them, but that is no reason not to set a standard towards which all of us should endeavour to strive. The Salvation Army will continue to play its part toward that end.

Yours faithfully, CAUGHEY GAUNTLETT, Chief of the Staff, The Salvation Army, 101 Queen Victoria Street, EC4, December 21.

From developed countries. It is in fact a part of the technological investment which Britain and the rest of Europe has laboriously and painfully built up, and without which the prospects for the future will be bleak.

The potential market is clear when one realizes that European airlines carry nearly half of the Western world's international air traffic, compared with just under 20 per cent carried by American airlines. Further, only about 45 per cent of airline traffic is in the USA while 25 per cent is in Europe, and more than one third of the Western world's demand for short-medium haul aircraft carrying 200 passengers or less is accounted for by European airlines.

The contribution of the UK aerospace industry to the country's balance of trade has been enormous, with exports in excess of £200m over the past decade (at 1980 prices). The industry is prepared to invest in the A320 but needs Government support to launch the programme. The Air League believe that this support should be given and is confident that there will ultimately be a pay-off to the taxpayer.

Yours faithfully, E. HENDERSON, Chairman, The Air League, Hamilton Place, W1, December 29.

ers which can, uniquely, occur in a warship subjected to the cruelties of the sea and of war at sea.

We are fortunate in the United Kingdom that the imbalance to which your correspondent refers is far smaller than in either the French or the United States or indeed the Soviet navy, where all engineers are in uniform. Instead we have the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors and the Royal Naval Engineering Service to help us. But they would agree that the input of seagoing experience during the design process is essential to achieving that degree of operational readiness after which all survive.

In fact a smaller Fleet needs more talent at the top. Plans are more difficult to contrive. Operations have to be conducted with smaller resources. Priorities have to be argued over, overcoming the whims of politicians. Of course, as a Fleet is reduced so the essential overheads go up in proportion.

Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS B. HAGUE, 101 Queen Victoria Street, EC4, December 16.

Penny-pinching

From Mrs Priscilla Glover

Sir, Some may dispute the "round-up" or down, of the halfpenny coin, but let us not its existence be perpetuated. It is indispensable for levelling off pendulum clocks. Yours faithfully, PRISCILLA GLOVER, 101 Queen Victoria Street, EC4, December 30.

common struggle against a common enemy. Under its impetus leaders in Britain and Northern Ireland must be willing to enter into some sort of long-term undertaking for the unity of Ireland, and leaders in the public must be willing to guarantee all appropriate rights for protestants in the North and institutional changes as necessary.

This would not be a disguised story for the IRA. Indeed the sole basis on which an agreement could be forged, and a condition for the total eradication of terrorism and all that it stands for. Dr Fitzgerald seems to be offering a new way forward. Rock-ribbed position to any progressive change, whether on the Unionist or the Republican side, should not be tolerated any longer.

Yours faithfully, JAMES BOYES, 101 Queen Victoria Street, EC4, December 24.

When the press must publish

From Mr Duncan Campbell

Sir, Writing about *The Guardian's* recent legal case, Mr Bernard Levin (feature, December 30) took a sideswipe at those "investigative reporters whose output he evidently dislikes, including myself."

His article attempted to suggest that such reporting derives largely or entirely from the reproduction of stolen government documents. This is a pejorative, and in fact quite false, representation of the fashionable "mole" theory of journalism; to wit, that all exposes result from the copious and accurate help of high-level informants of the "Deep Throat" calibre.

"Deep Throats" do not exist for the most part; uncovering secret Government deceptions, be they about the level of phone tapping or the occurrence of nuclear accidents, depends 99 per cent on the exhaustive analysis of non-confidential material, spiced only by a few facts, usually partial and unconfirmed by documents, from within Whitehall's citadel.

So well do the Government's own security sleuths know this that they attempted in 1979 to criminalise such research by creating a new so-called "jigsaw puzzle" offence whose alleged "mistakes" lay in piecing together from quite public sources information which, put together, might reveal something of such matters as phone tapping or letter opening.

The purpose of this grotesque provision (contained in the Protection of Official Information Bill, whose failure to pass into law I celebrate as much as Mr Levin does) was to try and criminalise such investigations as they are actually done, by hard work - and not as Mr Levin imagines they are done, by receiving wheelbarrow loads of confidential papers from imaginary "tiny trots" in the Defence Ministry.

Mr Levin's outlook is well illustrated by his view that it is only those officials who may be portrayed as a crowd of "tiny trots". When public officials betray their employers' trust to right-wing writers such as Chapman Pincher they are, instead, "trusted" confidants. Yours, DUNCAN CAMPBELL, New Statesman, 14-16 Farringdon Lane, EC1, December 30.

Incidence of cancer

From Dr F. J. C. Millard

Sir, Bernard Levin writes marvelously well (December 22) but does it really matter whether four kings or 104 did or did not die from the effects of smoking, or that the Secretary of Ash, whoever he may be, has made a foolish mistake? During the past year I have seen 103 patients with cancer of the lung. Forty-six are dead, four more will almost certainly die during the Christmas holiday, and in three years time there are likely to be only five or six left alive. These figures are similar to those from any other centre which deals with this distressing disease.

Of course I cannot prove that smoking has caused cancer in an individual patient any more than I can be certain that if Mr Levin became a stunt man and tried shooting Niagara in a barrel he would dash his brains out on the rocks below.

He might get away with it, but it is reasonable to suppose that he would have an increased risk of sudden death, and if he does it often enough he will almost certainly come to a sticky end. I note that Mr Levin does not smoke himself. Could he be persuaded to write an article which would encourage others to follow his example? Yours faithfully, F. J. C. MILLARD, St James' Hospital, Sarsfield Road, Balmagh, SW12, December 24.

In the here and now

From Mr F. W. H. Loudon

Sir, The sparrow passant theory of existence, as repeated by Mr Butt (feature, December 22) is ornithologically doubtful as sparrows normally go out by the small hole through which they have come in. It might support theories of rebirth but hardly a Christian view of progress. Whether, or not, and how the bishops and curates of the Church of England, or of any other denomination, can help clouds of sparrows towards a tiny hole at the far end of the hall has not been elucidated. That they certainly should do so is an axiom propounded at needless length by the Bishop of Lincoln (December 24).

Like most things it is a question of balance and Mr Butt was only pointing out that present ecclesiastical fashion trends towards the furniture of the hall rather than towards the owner. Yours faithfully, F. W. H. LOUDON, Little Olanthigh, Wye, Ashford, Kent, December 24.

Preserving buildings

From Mr Douglas B. Hague

Sir, Mr Clive Aslet (December 23) makes a reasonable point, and there were people before buildings, but nevertheless one must avoid mawkish sentimentality. Here in Wales, when involved in any attempt to save a building, a considerable body of public support can be assured if it can be established that a Welsh hymn has been composed within its walls. Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS B. HAGUE, Maesglas, Llanafan, Aberystwyth, Dyfed, December 23.

Richard Gere put a lot into *The Honorary Consul*, which opens in London this week, and is still sore about its treatment in the States: Joan Goodman reports

Integrity in face of the unlovable

Graham Greene's novels do not translate easily to the big screen. Their inner complexity is often lost in the broad strokes of film-making. *The Honorary Consul*, which opens in London this week, tries to crack this problem. A political thriller on the surface, its underpinnings remain moral and philosophical. Action is tempered by reason. Its hero, played by Richard Gere, is unloving and unlovable, something of an emotional cypher who, when the showdown comes, is forced to re-evaluate his beliefs.

Norma Heyman, the producer, attracted a distinguished group of artists to the project. Christopher Hampton wrote the screenplay. John Mackenzie (*The Long Good Friday* and *A Sense of Freedom*) directed. Michael Caine plays the warm-hearted, drunken minor consul whom Gere betrays to Paraguayan guerrillas and whose wife he makes his mistress. Bob Hoskins is the ruthless Argentinian police chief of the small Argentine town where the action takes place. He sees in Gere's dispassionate, apolitical Dr Platt a challenge.

They put in a brutal three months' filming in Vera Cruz, Mexico (after the Falklands war, Argentina was out as a location); but, when it was finished, Paramount, the company that paid for the film, pulled the rug out.

Paramount simply took the print and made unauthorized cuts. They changed words, says Richard Gere, with wounded feelings. "I refused to change the words and Mackenzie refused to have me change the words so they brought in another actor to dub in the words to make me appear to be more sympathetic. Platt is a very passive character. He doesn't do things. He's a 'may-be' person - that's his character in the book. When Michael (Caine) asks me 'do you believe in anything', Platt says 'no, I don't think so'. The studio took out the 'no', which is the guts of the character. It was just stupid."

Can a film company do that? "They can do anything they want," says Gere, "because they paid for it and at that point none of us was strong enough to control the cut." Gere, with his star image and his critical and commercial success in *An Officer and a Gentleman*, has less control than most, he says. "There are no actors who have that control. Usually the director in conjunction with the producer has a cut, but unless he's a very powerful director, the studio always has the final cut. They control the means of production so they can do what they want with the product."

Gere is cool but passionate about the injustice and the tampering with artistic integrity. He has carefully manipulated the Hollywood mind-sets before, keeping on good terms with the businessmen who run the studios and, at the same time, finding a way to do films of his choice. *Honorary Consul* was one of them. Gere took a vastly reduced salary (as did the other actors) in order to keep to the film's relatively modest budget. He endured considerable physical hardship. According to the producer, he had to go into hospital at one point.

Gere had been sick for four or five weeks with the "flu", and we didn't even know it," she says. "He didn't want to cause trouble but it was very debilitating and finally I had to take him to the hospital overnight where they pumped him full of vitamins. I would ruthlessly arrive at 7.30 in the morning and whisk him back to work."

Given his commitment to the story and his considerable risk in taking on an unsympathetic character, Gere was relieved to learn that the film would be released in England in its original form. In the States it was not only changed the title - it was renamed *Beyond the Limit* because a survey showed that Americans did not know what an honorary consul was - but the trailers and posters featured Gere in a sexy pose.

"Everything Paramount did was to sell it down the drain as an exploitation film," Gere says bitterly. "I found it personally humiliating. I think they never liked the film to begin with. It's not a particularly commercial idea. All the way through they tried to make it into something other than what it was. I don't know what they thought it was but they never approached the material on the level we were approaching it. I think they had some vague idea that there were elements they could market in a commercial way. They did their best to try and find them and what they couldn't find they invented."

Paramount both confirm and deny Gere's charges. A spokesman in New York said: "We were all very passionate about the film from the very beginning. We were very surprised when the film didn't do well. Maybe it's too current, or maybe people are saying to 'I'm not interested in a film based on that concept'. We changed the title because we wanted a title that would be more accessible and easier for the public to relate to. We had a film with Richard Gere and Michael Caine after all," he added, implying that they were counting on the actors' popularity to bring in an audience.

In fact Gere has never had the sort of mass audience that will automatically see anything he does. His record at the box office has always been erratic. Critically he has had his ups and downs as well. His screen career began auspiciously in 1975 when he played a pimp in *Report to the Commissioner* and then a shell-shocked soldier in *Baby Blue Marine*. He made a wider impression in Terrence Malick's *Days of Heaven* and began to acquire a cult following. There were more good notices for his menacing punk who terrorizes Diane Keaton in *Looking for Mr. Goodbar*. He was proclaimed a comer but somehow the promise fizzled out with a series of films that

included *Yanks*, directed by John Schlesinger, *Bloodbrothers* and *American Gigolo*. *An Officer and a Gentleman* was the surprise success that put him on the Hollywood map. "I don't think anybody thought it would be the blockbuster success it was," says Gere. "I certainly never did. I did it because I liked the script."

More interesting has been his theatre work. He had begun in regional theatre in Massachusetts, then went to New York where he starred in *Shakespeare in the Park* and *David Storey*. This got him the lead in the London company of *Grease*, which lasted two years. He also got hired by Frank Dunlop to work at the Young Vic, an unusual achievement for an American. He continues to intersperse stage work with films. He was doing *Bent* on Broadway when *American Gigolo* opened in the States.

At 33, Gere is a slim, handsome man who values his privacy although he admits that "at some level I must enjoy the notoriety of the business otherwise I wouldn't be in it". Those who know him say that acting is a consuming interest. "I don't even take vacations well," he says. He grew up in an average, middle-class family in upstate New York and his first interest was music. He has a chance to use this talent in the recently completed *Cotton Club*, directed by Francis Coppola. "It looks wonderful," Gere says with real enthusiasm. "It's the first musical I've done and we have some wonderful people. It's about the old Harlem nightclub that was run by gangsters in the Twenties. Bob Hoskins plays O'Connell Madden and he's a treat. Gregory Hines and his brother Maurice tap-dance, and let me tell you they are great." Gere dances too. "But I stick to the rumba," he grins. "You don't think I'm dumb enough to compete with them?"

The Honorary Consul

Television A far, far cry...

If ITV has judged the mood correctly, then the take-away facilities of Indian restaurants should be severely taxed over the next 12 weeks or so.

Next week Granada starts its 14-part serialisation of Paul Scott's *Jewel in the Crown* on the main network with Channel 4 repeating on Sundays for those who missed the first or want a second helping. Last night Channel 4 gave what might have been considered to be an acclimatization procedure with the first dollop of M. M. Kaye's *The Far Pavilions*, made by Goldcrest at a cost of some £9m. It continues tonight and tomorrow night, almost six hours in all in which it was hoped to capture the essence of this massive story of romance and adventure.

On the strength of the opener, six hours will not be enough. Whereas the book flows with pace and verve, this had the ponderous tread of the numerous pachyderms on whom we were frequently invited to focus. Someone should have been in there shouting "Jeldi, Jeldi", but story-telling bowed to spectacle and it was not a fair trade.

It is inevitable that the story had to be telescoped, so we cannot grumble about the snapshot picture of the early days of the hero, Ash, the orphaned white boy raised by his Hindu nurse in ignorance of his antecedents. But one wonders about some of the invention that accompanies the telescoping: for instance the fist-fight between Ash, restored to his rightful status as officer and gentleman, and his brother officers. Such a thing could provoke former Indian Army officers to apoplexy and is only understandable perhaps when one reads that this is the first British mini-series to be pre-sold to American cable television. We know from John Wayne and all that the American Army is less inhibited by decorum.

Bea Cross is Ash, a sudden kind of chap, as, indeed, Mr Cross has been grotesquely inflated. The actor, Josef Bierblicher, is wearing under his clothes rubber padding which emits crude noises each time he moves. The main point, it would seem, is to offend the audience.

In directing *Der neue Prozess* Dieter Dorn has lavished more ingenuity on the piece than it deserves. Some of the stage pictures are powerful, especially in the office scene with typewriters on floor level and clerks sitting in stage traps. But the concept is one which could only lead the well-meaning Weiss into cliché. The trial this Josef K. undergoes is promotion in a contemporary society based on militaristic technocracy, and the laws of which he is ignorant are the laws driving the world towards a nuclear holocaust.

Leni becomes a super-secretary and Titorelli an aging hippy who denounces Reaganism in a mural. It is fairly safe to predict that none of these three plays will reach London, but the least unimportant is that by the East German dramatist Heiner Müller. *Quartet* is his perverse title for a two-hander in which the Marquise de Merteuil and the Vicomte de Valmont, each with a long career of intrigue and lechery, make a final effort to ensnare each other. Finally she poisons him - Müller's point being that the drive behind sexuality is essentially destructive. Doris Schade gives an impressive performance, while Ronald Pékay almost reaches the same level, but they would have had better parts if Müller had been content to dramatize the novel.

Dennis Hackett

● The Academy of Ancient Music, with its director Christopher Hogwood, is to give eight concerts on a tour of Japan and Taiwan between February 4 and 14. The programmes are built around the symphonies of Mozart and Haydn.

Galleries

Loss of identity

Reg Butler
Tate

A national gallery of modern art can do many useful things which have little or nothing to do with the avant garde. It has been very useful - and curiously daring - of the Tate Gallery to stage its current John Piper exhibition, professing for our renewed attention someone so well known as to be taken for granted. The next-door gallery devoted to the art of Reg Butler (until January 15) is in a very different category, since Butler slipped during his last few years very much into obscurity, and the show essentially offers an answer to questions of the "Whatever happened to..." variety.

Butler, of course, did at one time know considerable fame, if not notoriety. That was in the mid-Fifties, when he was in his early forties, when he won the highly publicized international competition for a memorial to the Unknown Political Prisoner. This splendid structure in forged and welded iron - the final maquette, that is - now looks ineffably of its period, and bears witness as much to Butler's early training and experience as an architect and his wartime occupation as a blacksmith as it does to his specifically sculptural talents.

This comprehensive show reveals him carving in wood earlier on, in a not particularly distinctive fashion, and coming into his own during the Fifties with a group of works in much the same style of abstract - or almost abstract - construction in metal as the *Unknown Political Prisoner*. At that point his sculpture was, though it used the language of the tribe, immediately recognizable and distinctive. But with the beginning of the Sixties he seems to have lost a clear sense of his own artistic identity, and his return to a more representational style shows a too heavy debt to Marino, especially in the figures gazing heavenward.

The surprise and novelty of the show is its presentation of almost the totality of Butler's sculpture between 1968 and his death in 1981. There is something very worrying, and more



Faintly worrying: Bending Girl (1968-71)

than faintly unpleasant, about these painted female figures with real hair, twisted into contorted, or indeed contortionist, poses. The deathly pallor of the flesh tones and the deformations of the body seem to take us somewhere towards Francis Bacon country, only Butler's figures, unlike Bacon's, refuse to express anything about their predicament, even a faint discomfort. What do they mean? What are they for? And is the discomfort they create in the spectator an intended artistic effect or just embarrassment at looking unawares into an alien private world? Whatever our answers, it is good that the Tate has given us a chance to ask ourselves the questions.

John Russell Taylor

Theatre in Germany

Provoking the audience to shift

The new season at the Munich Kammerspiele has got off to an exceedingly lively start. Peter Weiss's last play *Der neue Prozess* (*The New Trial*), a 1981 reworking of his 1974 Kafka adaptation, was followed three days later by Franz Xaver Kroetz's latest play *Nicht Fisch nicht Fleisch* (*Neither Fish nor Meat*), which was simultaneously premiered in Düsseldorf and Berlin in 1981 and has now been directed for the Kammerspiele by the Munich-born author. Heiner Müller's *Quartet*, a 1982 play based on Choderlos de Laclos's *Les Liaisons dangereuses*, opened later.

In the middle Seventies, Kroetz's plays were being seen in London despite the difficulties by writing in Bavarian dialect. *Stallerhof* and its sequel *Geisterbahn* were premiered at the Bush, *Heimarbeit* (*Homework*) at the Half Moon and *Morecambe* (an Anglicization of *Obersterreich*) at the Hampstead Theatre Club. But the English theatre has been inhospitable to his recent work, though it has successfully performed more than any other foreign playwright and in Germany he attracted considerable attention from the press when he left the Communist Party in 1980. At the Kammerspiele *Heimarbeit* caused a riot when it was premiered there in 1971. *Nicht Fisch nicht Fleisch* is provoking members of the audience to shout back and walk out at each performance, though, judging from the laughter and applause, the whole audience seems to be unusually in tune with what is being said and done on stage until the last fifteen minutes, when the trouble occurs.

Kroetz can write about working-class characters without either the condescension that used to be typical of conservative playwrights or the superficially flattering absten-

tion from satire which is typical of left-wingers. *Nicht Fisch nicht Fleisch* is about transformation of the print industry by new technology: see the impact of the change



Final effort to ensnare: Doris Schade and Ronald Pékay in Heiner Müller's *Quartet*

Theatre in London

The Pelican
Sir Richard Steele

The Infrero Players, who specialize in Scandinavian rarities, are claiming this as the first British version of Strindberg's 1908 "chamber play", and I can believe it.

Like *The Ghost Sonata*, written in the same year, *The Pelican* concerns love-starvation, as expressed through the figure of a vampire female who satisfies her own greed by feeding her family on grief. In the first play the vampire is a cook; in the second it is mother, who has driven her

husband to death and enfeebled her two children. The difference is that, where *The Ghost Sonata* justifies these obsessions, by taking a leap into expressionism, *The Pelican* descends with a bump to Strindberg's naturalistic manner, with the result that the play rarely escapes from the prison of personal case-history.

The intention is certainly objective. Mother, son, daughter and son-in-law are introduced in turn, so as to present the domestic torture-chamber from a succession of viewpoints, and show how each is inescapably bound to go on punishing the others. But when the mother remarks "It's the

same in every family - people just don't show it to others" you start wondering when your own mother pinched the housekeeper off to her creditor, and kept the house so cold that the son finally burnt it down to get a bit of warmth.

The links with Strindberg's own childhood, and particularly his violently divided feelings towards his mother, are undisguised, even the overbearing same name as the brother for whom Strindberg felt his mother had rejected him. And what comes over, from the catalogues of grievances and emotionally blackmailing tactics of the

children, is a sense of the way in which the family unit is a prison of its own making, a place where the most basic human needs are often sacrificed to the demands of a warped and selfish love.

London debuts

Sensitive singers

Joan Rodgers, winner of the 1981 Kathleen Ferrier Scholarship, is already a singer with an enviable reputation. In her recital she showed why, for she is blessed with a soprano voice of great natural beauty that she also knows how to handle intelligently.

She began her opening Mozart group just a trifle tentatively, but swept her nerves aside quickly enough to give a sensuous though vocally well-restrained account of Debussy's *Ariettes oubliées*. By her Schubert group she had relaxed completely, and gave thoughtful readings of "Die Sterne Lieben" and "Suleika", helped by the alert responses of her accompanist, Roger Vig-

notes, very much an equal partner throughout. Miss Rodgers has a degree in Russian, and so it is not surprising to find her particularly sympathetic to Russian texts. Britten's Pushkin cycle *The Poet's Echo* was delivered here with precise characterization as well as a marvellous technique and variety of colour. And three Rachmaninov songs were full of the ripest passions, so much so that we needed the youthful humour of Walton's Three Sitwell Songs, sung with

apposite girliness, to remind us that Miss Rodgers is yet a fledgling singer. Hardly less astonishing was the recital given by the Finnish soprano Aulikki Eerola, with another sensitive yet positive accompanist, her husband Pertti Eerola. Once more the programme was intelligently planned, and once more the voice was rich, powerful, concentrated and flexible. Miss Eerola's Schubert group included three chestnuts, "Die Junge Nonne", "An Silvia" and

"Gany them she N. Zauber". She the ch world of happy singing to this hab'io virtuosid compani selection was in Eerola the intent was here, inevitably arity with

30th International
OPENS TOMORROW
BOAT SHOW 1984
incorporating THE BRITISH SAILBOARD DISPLAY and DINGHY WORLD

EARLS COURT - 5th-15th January

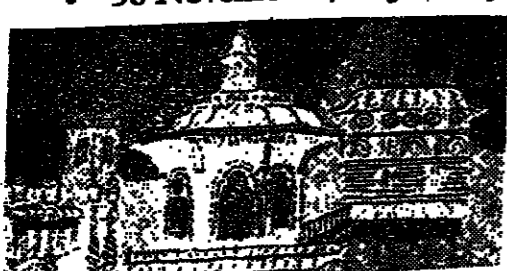
Looks like the Mississippi itself has rolled all the way down to the Pool at Earls Court. There's a real New Orleans atmosphere there including an elegant sternwheeler tied up at the waterfront; a Dixieland-style jazzband pushing out the Basin Street sounds; and the Mississippi dancers moving in that certain way; tumblers and acrobats adding to the fun while overhead a high-wire act thrills the crowds. All around, a sparkling galaxy of nautical tastes, and equipment to delight the most fastidious of nautical tastes, and features like the men who defied the Atlantic in craft no bigger than the family wardrobe; the wonderful world of sub-aqua diving; Trireme warship displays; the wonderful world of a magnificent sailing tuition for children in a special tank; and a magnificent section for sailboards and dinghies. Truly something for everybody in fact!

As well as weekends (10 a.m.-5 p.m.) the Boat Show is open on Saturdays and Sundays (10 a.m.-7 p.m.). Tomorrow and Friday admission is £5 (including free catalogue). From Saturday it's £2.50 (children under 14 half-price on all days). Prices include V.A.T.

*It is requested that exhibitors do not overcharge or overbook. Exhibitors should please make a note of the following information: You can have your children (2-16 years) for up to 2 hours at the Children's Playcentre. Invalids please advised only by prior arrangement with the Organisers. Regret no dogs.

Presented by the
SBBNF & DAILY EXPRESS
with PETER STUYVESANT

John Piper
30 November-22 January



Piper is perhaps best known for his romantic landscape painting, but his work in stained glass, ceramics, fabrics and theatre design, now shown together for the first time, fully demonstrates his versatility.

Sponsored by Mobil

Admission £1.50 Weekdays 10-5.30 Sundays 2-5.30

For information 01-821 7128 Closed 23-26 December and 1 January

Tate Gallery
Millbank London SW1

Stillers cure for hangover

Investors returned to the market yesterday, after a holiday, and the market was buoyant, with the share price index rising 1.5 per cent to 3,115.5.

Jobbers complained of a lack of interest in the market, but the share price index was buoyant, with the share price index rising 1.5 per cent to 3,115.5. The market was buoyant, with the share price index rising 1.5 per cent to 3,115.5. The market was buoyant, with the share price index rising 1.5 per cent to 3,115.5.

Shares in issue. Fleet owns around 12 per cent of the shares in Reuters, which capitalised at around £1,500m could be worth £180m to Fleet.

Already the Australian entrepreneur, Mr Robert Holmes à Court has bought more than 7 per cent of the shares and is thought to be looking to add to his stake.

Shares of Regentrest, formerly Lanchester Estates, were unchanged at 20p after St James Corporate Services announced

Hopes are high of a prosperous new year for Greenview Resources, the Canadian gold mining group. Yesterday, the shares celebrated the first dealings of 1984 with a rise of 20p to 160p on talk of a big find in the Sudan. Dealers are eagerly awaiting news and predict that the price could hit 250p soon.

it had added to its stake and now owned 9.5 per cent of the total. St James is a private company owned by the former Slater Walker high-flier Mr David Bulstrode.

The coup in Nigeria, an important oil producer, sent a

shudder through oil shares. Fears that the new government would flood the market with oil from BP at 385p with the next instalment on the party paid shares due next week. Other fallers included Britoil, 4p to 196p, Burmah, 3p to 171p, Lesmo 3p to 288p and Ultramar 3p to 607p.

Shares of Burnett & Hallamshire erased an early 20p lead to close unchanged at 138p after denials by Kuwait-owned Hays Group that it was in talks about a £20m bid for its UK

Petroleum subsidiary. On the USM, Gibbs, Mew the Salisbury brewer, made a sparkling debut, opening at 250p compared with 200p. The shares ended the day at 240p.

Shares of Gestetner "A" were lifted 3p to 66p on renewed bid talk. The shares have long been tipped as a takeover target, but with the Gestetner family owning the bulk of the voting shares any approach would have to be agreed.

Last year's share of the year, Bellair Cosmetics, spurred 125p to £12.25, still reflecting the stake held by Wasskon Establishment, Harold Ingram, where Wasskon also holds a stake, rose 40p to 315p.

RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price	Change	Yield
BP 25p Ord (115)	115	0	10.5
Brownlie & Co 10p Ord (115)	115	0	10.5
BP 25p Ord (115)	115	0	10.5
Brownlie & Co 10p Ord (115)	115	0	10.5
BP 25p Ord (115)	115	0	10.5
Brownlie & Co 10p Ord (115)	115	0	10.5

BRITISH FUNDS

Company	Price	Change	Yield
100% Treas	100	0	10.5
100% Govt	100	0	10.5
100% Ind	100	0	10.5
100% Int	100	0	10.5
100% Mkt	100	0	10.5
100% Real	100	0	10.5
100% Tech	100	0	10.5
100% World	100	0	10.5

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

Company	Price	Change	Yield
100% Aust	100	0	10.5
100% Can	100	0	10.5
100% Hong	100	0	10.5
100% India	100	0	10.5
100% Japan	100	0	10.5
100% Korea	100	0	10.5
100% Latin	100	0	10.5
100% Middle	100	0	10.5
100% Russia	100	0	10.5
100% South	100	0	10.5
100% Taiwan	100	0	10.5
100% Thailand	100	0	10.5
100% USA	100	0	10.5
100% West	100	0	10.5
100% World	100	0	10.5

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Company	Price	Change	Yield
100% LCC	100	0	10.5
100% GLC	100	0	10.5
100% LGA	100	0	10.5
100% LTA	100	0	10.5
100% LWB	100	0	10.5
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100% LWB	100	0	10.5

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Company	Price	Change	Yield
100% Bank	100	0	10.5
100% Bank	100	0	10.5
100% Bank	100	0	10.5
100% Bank	100	0	10.5
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100% Bank	100	0	10.5

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS

Company	Price	Change	Yield
100% Brew	100	0	10.5
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100% Brew	100	0	10.5

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Company	Price	Change	Yield
100% Ind	100	0	10.5
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100% Ind	100	0	10.5
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Low Company

Company	Price	Change	Yield
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High Company

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Son of Dunlop faces £600m debt burden



Sir Maurice: higher borrowing limit

It was only a matter of time that stopped Sir Maurice Hodgson from winning the poisoned chalice in our seasonal business awards last week. Yesterday was Sir Maurice's first working day as chairman of Dunlop, a post he added to his chairmanship of British Home Stores after the exit of Sir Campbell Fraser at the end of the year.

His first duty was to convene an extraordinary shareholders' meeting to change the company's borrowing limits, which are in severe danger of being breached.

The trouble with Dunlop's survival plan, as the City noted at the time of the tyre deal with Sumitomo Rubber, is that its assets are still shrinking faster than, as Sir Maurice puts it, "the loot comes in" from divestment.

At present, Dunlop's articles of association limit its borrowing to 1.5 times adjusted capital and reserves. Three months ago, the formal limit was £568m. After the Sumitomo deal and the decision to place the French tyre businesses into receivership, it has plunged to £458m. Meanwhile, borrowings have edged more sedately down from £484m to about £440m. This allows for the disappointment over the scrapping of the Malaysian deal with major shareholder Pegi, and payments from Sumitomo until next week, but not for £38m of guarantees on the French companies' loans, which seem likely to be called.

Sumitomo will have paid another £44 million or so in a year and Dunlop will then recover working capital from the tyre businesses sold. Even so, cash flow is likely to move the wrong way with further rationalization and redundancy costs. Meanwhile, there are bound to be more asset write-offs.

Reasonably enough Dunlop and its Malaysian shareholders now want to swap the variable borrowing formula for a fixed money limit, that will operate only up to the 1985 annual meeting. By this time, Sir Maurice hopes, the survival plan will be in place and "son of Dunlop" will have emerged.

But private shareholders, although by now punchdrunk with the successive shocks to old father Dunlop will surely want to question the board closely on the new limit it wants to set - no less than £600m. By the time rationalization is complete, that could well be more than three times capital and reserves.

The formal explanation is that the board does not want to pitch its limits too low and have to come back for more. It wants to be sure it has enough to pay for peak working capital. Even so, shareholders' best protection may well be the unwillingness of the Midland and other banks now propping up Dunlop under the watchful eye of the Bank of England, to lend anything like that sum.

The real message is that, even without the bad news on the Malaysian deal, Sir Maurice and the accountants have found things far worse at Dunlop than most shareholders even now imagine.

As Sir Maurice readily admits that survival will take a lot more than disposing of the loss-making tyre businesses and the Malaysian setup, which contributed little to central coffers. Son of Dunlop will not be much of a bonanza for existing shareholders.

Europe can pull together

American complaints that Europe has not been pulling its weight in helping to prod the world out of recession have been largely ignored, at least on this side of the Atlantic, amid all the guffing and puffing over the inequities of the swollen US budget deficit.

Yet Europe's economic power, if only it could be exerted effectively, potentially rivals that of America. As the latest issue of *World Financial Markets* from Morgan Guaranty, the American bank, makes clear, Europe's fortunes rest largely in its own hands.

High US interest rates, unhelpful though they may be, are certainly not the only factors keeping up interest rates in Europe.

EEC countries do more than half their trade with each other and only 8 per cent with the US. A concerted move by EEC governments to reduce interest rates would halve the currency and inflation risk to any individual country. But the commitment to tight money policies by the British and the Germans in particular make agreement on these lines unlikely.

Europe's slower emergence from recovery has much to do with the restrictive fiscal policies its governments are pursuing as they attempt to bring down structural budget deficits.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has calculated that if European countries are deflating at the same time each 1 per cent cut from gdp in one country translates into a 3 per cent fall overall. Hence the unexpected severity of recession. But the converse is also true.

This interdependence "implies that a concerted, coordinated European expansion of domestic demand would benefit all the European economies without inducing large external imbalances" Morgan Guaranty suggest. Yet almost without exception the Europeans are committed to further fiscal retrenchment.

For individual countries such policies make sense. But we should surely pay more attention to the scope for joint European action, rather than simply blaming the US for our difficulties.

Doubts re Nigerian loan

Nigeria has met the first repayment due on a \$1.9 billion bank loan arranged last year. Barclays Bank International, the agent bank, announced yesterday.

However, the repayment, believed to be nearly \$60m, was received by the agent bank on December 29 before the military coup and bankers gave a warning that it demonstrated nothing about the attitude of the new regime towards Nigeria's debt negotiations.

With communications blocked, bankers and government officials remain in the dark about the intentions of the military government. But some comfort has been drawn from Sunday's broadcast in which Major-General Mohammed Buhari, who led the coup, said: "We shall do our best to settle genuine payments to which the government is committed."

Nigeria's debt problems have centred on its short term trade debts and overdue payments on

these have now been met. The official credit line of about £1 billion, before Christmas, Nigerian officials are now negotiating both a new loan and a refinancing of the existing one.

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Pound slides on oil fears

The pound fell sharply on foreign exchange markets yesterday on worries over oil prices in the wake of the Nigerian coup, as the dollar surged ahead.

It lost 2.30 cents to \$1.4285 and weakened against key European currencies and the yen, knocking 0.8 off its trade-weighted index to 82.2. Dealers said sterling had been hurt by fears that Nigeria may breach its oil production quotas or cut prices to gain the foreign exchange it desperately needs, which would put pressure on the price of oil from the North Sea.

US poised for Peking trade accord

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US and China are preparing to sign a trade agreement by which American companies will play a greater role in developing China's infant industrial complex.

US Commerce Department sources said the new agreement on industrial and technological cooperation would be signed next week when the Chinese Prime Minister Mr Zhao Ziyang, makes an official visit to Washington beginning on Monday.

The accord, which has been long in the planning stages despite tense relations between the two countries, would mark a significant turning point for US companies which have been trying to enter the ground floor of what they believe to be a budding industrial revolution in China.

Over the last year, after the relaxation of US controls on high technology exports, American companies have greatly increased this segment of their market estimated at 3,300 licenses valued at \$1.2 billion (£827m) last year. This compared with high-technology exports worth \$469m in 1981.

In the next year, US Commerce officials estimate the volume of exports will grow more rapidly expanding to a minimum of 2 billion and possibly as high as 2.5 billion.

The signing of the non-binding economic accord would mark the first time China has entered into such an agreement with a foreign government despite numerous attempts by other nations to forge similar ties.

US officials said they expected opposition to the arrangement from other nations, particularly France which has made clear in negotiations on western control of high technology exports that it opposes US sales of high technology and military-related goods to Peking.

Officials said they expected the agreement initially to lead to new contracts for US companies in helping China develop its coal mining and oil industries, in addition to hydro-power resources and nonferrous metals.

The new stronger, trade ties would also mark an important turning point in relations between the US and China which have soured in the past three years since the Reagan Administration took office, because of strong differences over relations with Taiwan and tough US controls on Chinese textile exports.

Mr Zhao has said that the commercial relationship depended on a satisfactory settlement of the Taiwan problem.

Arms sales to China

Armstrong Equipment, a struggling motor supply group, has won a new Chinese car worth \$1m to the group's profits over the next years.

Under the terms of the announced yesterday, National Automotive Corporation will supply Armstrong shock absorbers under licence.

The Shanghai factory builds its own designs, but will supply Armstrong designs. The new car, which is to be produced within the next few weeks, will be ready for production about 12 months later.

Mr Harry Hooper, chairman of Armstrong Equipment, which made pre-tax losses of £1.1m in the 12 months to July, said that the deal would be at least £1m in profit during the seven years of the contract.

Yesterday the group's share price rose 10p to 110p.

£1m hotel first of new chain

By Derek Pain

Mr James Gulliver, who created the Argill drinks supermarkets group, is chairman of a new company set up to run country hotels.

The company's first acquisition is the Burnham Beech Hotel in Buckinghamshire, paid just over £1m for this 33-bedroom converted manor house.

Mr Gulliver, with a 5 per cent shareholding, will be non-executive chairman. Mr David Newling Ward, aged 43, will manage the new company called Country House Hotels which will seek suitable properties initially in the Home Counties and Thames Valley areas.

CHH has some impressive City backers. The Charterhouse Business Expansion Fund has contributed £450,000 for about 35 per cent of the equity. Clients of merchant bankers S G Warburg have 39 per cent and Mr Newling Ward has 20 per cent. Much of the starting cash has been subscribed under the business expansion scheme.

The backers hope that CHH will have at least half a dozen hotels within six years and will be ready to come to the Unlisted Securities Market.

Bond group bids for TV station

By Wayne Lintott

Bond Corporation Holdings, which is owned by the Australian entrepreneur Mr Alan Bond, made a surprise attempt yesterday to move into broadcasting.

His group announced a £20,250,000 takeover offer for Swan Television and Radio Broadcasters, independent owners of one of the two television stations at Perth, Western Australia.

The directors of Swan Television urged shareholders to reject Mr Bond's offer, claiming the A\$6.35 (£3.97) price per share was inadequate.

The move was seen by some observers as an attempt by Mr Bond to further capitalize on the success of his yacht, Australia II, in winning the America's Cup. He is due to defend the cup in 1986 and is negotiating TV rights.

Devenish

Brewers—Weymouth & Redruth

Highlights from the statement of the Chairman of J. A. Devenish plc, Mr R. S. Hargreaves, for the 52 weeks ended 30th September, 1983:

- * Dividend increased - proposed final of 8p makes year's total 10.25p (1982 - 9.5p) - on pre-tax profits 4.3% higher.
- * The hot summer led to a recovery in beer sales and the year ended with volume sales similar to last year - and comparable with the UK market as a whole.
- * Activity and sales in soft drinks sector increased.

Results at a glance	1983	1982
£000's		
Group Profit before Taxation	1,224	1,844
Group Profit after Taxation	1,198	1,428
Available for Ordinary Shareholders (after extraordinary items)	1,258	2,176*
Total Ordinary Dividend	377	350
Profit retained in the Company	881	1,826
Earnings per 25p Ordinary Share	82.2p	38.5p

* Includes exceptional tax credit of £527,000

WE WANT YOUR VIEWS ON PORTABLE PENSIONS

The Secretary of State for Social Services is currently leading an Inquiry into Provision for Retirement in the UK, with the following terms of reference:

"To study the future development, adequacy and cost of State, occupational and private provision for retirement in the United Kingdom, including the portability of pension rights, and to consider possible changes in those arrangements, taking account of the recommendations of the Select Committee on Social Services in their report on retirement age."

The first subject the Inquiry will examine is personal portable pensions. We want the views of interested bodies and individuals about the practical implications of portable pensions; about the advantages claimed for them; and about other possible ways of achieving these advantages.

If you or your organisation wish to submit written evidence on this subject please send it by 31 January to the Secretary of the Inquiry, Nick Montagu, at the address below. He can also give you any information you need before submitting evidence.

Later on, evidence will be invited on other aspects of the Inquiry.

The Inquiry into Provision for Retirement
Room 52, Hannibal House,
Elephant & Castle, London SE1 6TE

NEWS IN BRIEF

Murdoch to raise £31.5m

News Corporation, the Australian media company controlled by Mr R. M. Murdoch, will raise \$50m (£31.5m) by a bond issue on the Swiss capital market. The bonds will have a maturity of 10 years and other terms will be announced on January 12. News Corporation is retaining the right to increase the amount of the issue.

At the same time, Warner Communications, the American entertainment group of which Mr Murdoch has bought 7 per cent, said yesterday that it had been notified by News America, Mr Murdoch's American company, that interests controlled by him might buy up to 25 per cent of Warner.

Cris-Craft Industries, an American film and chemical company, concluded a deal at the end of last week giving it control of 25 per cent of Warner. This was widely believed to be an attempt to prevent Mr Murdoch taking control of Warner.

Bristol Oil and Minerals, formerly KCA International, is selling its commercial vehicle offshoot in a management buy-out. Berry Wiggins, which has Iveco agencies at Rochester and Newbury, is to be sold for £350,000 with £30,000 in cash and the rest satisfied by 8 per cent secured loan notes payable over five years. A further £250,000 may become due depending on the Berry Wiggins trading results over the next five years.

Newman Industries, the article on stock market laggards and leaders for 1983 in *The Times* on December 31 showed the ordinary shares of Newman Industries falling 78 per cent during 1983. However, after last year's capital reconstruction, most investors now own the convertible preference shares.

WALL STREET

Stocks look stronger

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Wall Street stocks showed signs of improving slightly in early trading, although they were still mixed.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 2.5 points. The transportation average was fractionally higher.

Advancing issues pulled ahead to a lead of about 745 to 690 over decliners.

International Business Machines rose 1/4 to 123 1/4; Texas Instruments rose 1/2 to 140 1/2; Teledyne rose 2 to 168 1/2; Honeywell rose 1/4 to 131 1/4.

Motorola fell 1/4 to 135 1/4; Control Data rose 1/4 to 45 1/4; Digital Equipment fell 1/2 to 71 1/4.

American Express at 32 1/4 was unchanged; General Electric at 58 1/4 was down 1/4; General Motors at 74 1/4 was unchanged; General Foods at 51 1/4 was down 1/4; Warner Communications 7 1/4 was up 1/4; Atlantic Richfield at 42 1/2 was down 1/4; Sears Roebuck at 24 1/4 was down 1/4; Harte-Hanks at 24 1/4 was down 1/4.

Mr Edward Nicolski, of Piper Jaffray & Hopwood, said: "I believe we could see a short-term trading rally."

Study says European consumption will halve

Cheap oil expected until year 2000

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Europe will benefit from cheaper oil until the end of the century as its currencies strengthen against the dollar, according to a report on energy supply and demand in Europe until the year 2000 published today by DRI Europe.

It suggests that real oil prices will fall until 1987 then start rising slowly until the year 2000 when prices will be only 10 per cent less than 1981 levels in real terms, far below projected inflation rates.

The report also suggests that oil consumption, which has been falling in Europe since 1979 will "bottom out" and start to rise, but will not reach its 1979 levels again this century.

In 1982 oil accounted for 48 per cent of Europe's energy consumption. In the year 2000 it will account for about 39 per cent, according to DRI.

The report also points out that energy saving campaigns such as that launched late last year by Lord Avon Under Secretary of State at the Department of Energy, will

have a significant effect on energy consumption. By 1986, as well as recent action by European governments in this field the measures taken since 1973 will start to have a cumulative effect, the report adds.

Oil will retain its dominant position "only in the road transport sector, although the rate of growth will slow from 2 per cent a year to 1.5 per cent in the 1990s as air transport grows and the expansion of road traffic in the southern European countries slows.

In power generating, DRI suggests that the reduction in oil consumption will continue. "No recovery is expected in this sector - in fact, as gas and to a lesser extent coal and hydro-electric power are used to meet peak demand oil's share will be squeezed."

"In the domestic sector the impact of conservation and the increasing penetration of gas in the space heating market will slow the growth in oil demand."



Lord Avon: success assured in energy-saving campaign

hold its share of the space heating market at 56 per cent until the late 1980s after which growth will slow and then reverse in the mid 1990s. "Industrial oil demand is also projected to increase in 1984, however no lasting and significant revival is expected."

DR forecasts that by the year 2000 industry in Western

Europe will be using half the oil that it now consumes.

It suggests that nuclear power will record the greatest gain in market share in Europe. By the year 2000, 37 per cent of total electricity generated will come from nuclear stations, compared with the present 19 per cent.

However, the report also suggests that apart from France which has its Super Phenix fast breeder project under development, almost all nuclear projects in Europe will be conventional reactors.

Despite the fall in popularity of oil as a fuel, DRI foresees no important revival in the British coal industry. A fall in domestic demand, lower electricity consumption and a further decline of the iron and steel industry are blamed.

Wimpey names chairman... George Wimpey... chairman... names...

Gower's disenchanted evening

From Derek Hodgson, Suva, Fiji

Britain's High Commissioner resurfaced his seat in the stand with the Fiji President's XI needing 38 runs in seven overs, with three wickets standing, to beat England. Was he about to see another retreat by the silence of the good-humoured barracking of Australian holidaymakers by dismissing the last man with the second ball of the forty-ninth over. England, having won by 198 runs at Lautoka on Monday, had reduced the margin to 18.

So another tale of the South Pacific ended happily in another enchanted evening. Albert Park was a beautiful setting for some excellent hard-fought cricket in which England were made to pay for dropped catches and complacent batting and the Fijians recovered some of the pride lost on Monday. The Fiji Association president, Malaki Gucake, said afterwards: "We needed to prove that we can play cricket. For various reasons we couldn't field our strongest side on Monday but today's result, so close to beating England, will give the game a great stimulus."

England, under Gower's leadership, batted first and had reached a comfortable 47 off 16 overs when Fowler failed to comfortably get a full toss and was off the mat as though this was a full toss. At 75 the delightfully named spinner, McGoon, found the mat responsive to his selection of off-spin, leg breaks and little seamers, bowling Smith and then having Gower superbly caught by the running, diving Misiki at midwicket.

The unfurling of a huge Commonwealth flag, accompanied by shouts of "Come on Fiji, they're only Poms", signalled the arrival of the Australians and much disaster as Gating, who had been dropped at the wicket off McGoon before scoring, and to both men (first ball, but a good one) fell to one of the Fiji newcomers, a 20-year-old fast medium bowler, Batina. England were then 85 for five with 30 overs gone and Suva, Sleepy in the midday sun, began to stir, more and more spectators lining the railings for a free view.

Lamb, fortunately, was in one of his gritty professional moods. He watched every ball off the mat as though this was Melbourne or Port of Spain and, with some intelligent support from Marks and the tail, England were 146 for 9 at the close. They had no great reason to suspect that they were in any danger when the Fijians batted; seven runs and as soon as the spinners appeared a collapse seemed likely, despite two dropped catches.

When Taylor stumped Misiki and Tadu off successive balls from Cook, the President's men were 78 for seven with 14 overs remaining. The all-rounder Jepsen was then joined by the tall, quick bowler, Gana, both of them toured England in 1982 and were possibly less in awe of the opposition than some of their colleagues.

Gana, quickly nicknamed "Joel" swung his bat like the great West Indian, Jepsen pushed and ran and the Australians fell about in delight. Thirty runs came in the nine overs when the HC returned clutching a brief case (instructions from Number 107) and England paid the Fijians the compliment of giving the quick bowler his full run.

Foster, awarded a salute of raised lagers, cans by the Australians, bounded in, and, with Fiji still needing 19, first had Jepsen, swinging, mid-on and then had Gana, caught behind, off the next ball. Two balls later it was all over.

Chappell to retire from Test cricket after Pakistan match

From Ian Brayshaw, Sydney

The announcement yesterday of Greg Chappell's retirement from international cricket overshadowed the activities of the day's play in the fifth Test match between Australia and Pakistan here.

It was almost of academic interest that Pakistan, having resumed at 61 for two, were dismissed for 278 shortly before stumps after a day of attrition against some fine fast bowling. Australia were six without loss in reply.

With appropriate timing, by catching Mudassar at second slip off the bowling of Lawson, Chappell equalled the record number of Test catches for a fieldman held by England's Colin Cowdrey. Chappell is playing his eighty-first Test match; Cowdrey needed 114 Tests for his 120 catches.

Lillee also reached a milestone, trapping Sarfraz leg before wicket to notch up his 350th Test victim. Marsh, too, achieved his 350th Test dismissal and Lillee helped him to it. When the last Pakistan wicket fell, caught Marsh bowled Lillee, it was the ninety-fourth time the pair had combined in Test matches.

This Test match is Chappell's last. His interest in run-making has waned since 1981, when he declined to tour England, and he has suffered a gradual decline in his success rate. In the present series, his 150 runs in the second Test is his only major score. The Chappell era began in 1964 when Ian Chappell played the first of his 75 Tests, embracing the Australian captaincy, and including two Tests, the youngest of the three brothers, Trevor, and 88 Tests, 48 of them as captain, for Greg.

Greg has been Australia's finest batsman since Sir Donald Bradman retired in 1948. He is now just 68 runs short of Bradman's Australian record total of Test runs, 6996, and has scored 23 Test centuries (four of them converted to double centuries).

A Grandson of the former Australian captain, Vic Richardson, Chappell began his Test career against Ray Illingworth's 1970-71 England team in Perth with a fine century on his debut and has had few fumbles since. He is one of four men who have scored a century and a double century in a Test and twice made a century in each innings in a Test.

Chappell's batting has always been straight from the copybook, superb defensive mechanisms and a complete array of majestic scoring strokes, perhaps the finest of which were his back-foot drives.

There were two Pakistan innings of note yesterday. Mudassar, who began late in the innings, survived against the odds and battled on through the difficult periods yesterday to score 84. Zaheer, almost certainly playing his last Test in Australia, continued his good recent form with 61. His innings was thoughtful and careful between lunch and tea and magnificently enterprising after the interval, particularly when he and Salim put on 30 in 26 minutes.

● Three days play remain in the match against Pakistan for Greg Chappell to score the 69 runs he needs to pass Sir Donald Bradman's record number of Test runs for Australia but he is not concerned with the challenge. "If you are playing for records you should not be playing - catches and runs are not that important," he said. "I'm only grateful that I've had the opportunity to play and get close to Bradman's record."

Fred Bennett, the chairman of the Australian Cricket Board said "Greg has been a wonderful cricketer and his contribution to the sport has been magnificent. The will go down as one of the great players of the game."



Off with his pads: Chappell declares his Australian innings closed. (Photograph: Chris Smith.)

Simon Barnes galore but televised sport does not score

Enough of such frivolity: there was real big time sport on the telly now. Yes, this was nothing less than darts itself, and the world champion, Keith Deller, being beaten by a solid looking American of Chinese extraction, a match that reminded me vividly of the night in Ah-Chuen's bar when we played for \$100 a dart.

I would have lost a packet if I had been at Newbury. I'd have opposed odds-on Observer with good old Approaching, now 13, and he damn near did it as well. I needed another beer after all that excitement.

But let us leave horses aside, for the great man himself, a man for whom I was once honoured to buy a pint of lager, (when I drop names I only drop the biggest) the No 1 seed for the world championship, blood highlights in his hair and little finger extended like a duchess: yes, it was Eric Bristow, and throwing darts fit to kill. A routinely cocky victory, and as Sid Waddell was quick to point out: "Bristow hasn't really broken sweat."

Time for a beer in Eric's honour: I returned from a polar expedition to the fridge to see that West Ham were one up. I bet Trev made it. The television showed Bobby George, a man whose fondness for sequins has earned him the title "The Liberace of darts." I switched channels, and saw a frightfully pretty girl called Jojo with hardly any clothes on. You wouldn't get that at Upton Park. It was apparently professional ice skating, and Jojo was followed by Robin Cousins, clad in wraparound shades and a peekaboo jump suit, exuberant as a fire cracker, doing some utterly splendid mucking about. Then came the half-time round-up: Spurs had equalized at West Ham, and yes, Trev did make West Ham's first goal.

Then it was time for stock car racing. This is a sport where you can never tell who is winning, and if you could, it is possible you might not care. It was better to watch Tony Brown, a man scruffy even by darts players' elevated standards, getting beaten by a sneering fellow, John Lowe.

Basketball did little to revive my now flagging spirits. I made another polar expedition while a team called Athletics in Action took on some gentlemen from Tel Aviv. I really can't get the hang of basketball, a game where excellence is possible only for the freakishly etiolated.

It was time for the final step downhill. Yes, it was the moment to switch over to the wrestling, and watch the battle between Fit Finlay and Chick Cullen (strange godparents professional wrestlers must have). Fit, if I may call him so, was remarkable for variegated green tights emblazoned with sham-rocks.

Four goals to one, two falls to one

"This is Fit Finlay's own special version of the face-mass triangle," said the indefatigable commentator, Kent Walton. Time for a beer. West Ham, said a score flash, now 4-1. Fit won by two falls to one.

After that, it was all football reports from reporters who, like Mr Jourdain, appear to have just discovered that they have spent all their lives speaking in prose. Trevor scored West Ham's fourth.

Stock cars, darts, professional skating, wrestling, more darts, (and a special darts programme on BBC-2 in case I was getting withdrawal symptoms). This Saturday I'm going to Plymouth Argyle. There will be less beer, but I'm looking forward to seeing some sport again. I miss it.

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	Current Price	Previous Price	% Change
1. ABC Unit Trust	12.50	12.40	0.81
2. DEF Investment Fund	8.75	8.60	1.74
3. GHI Equity Share	15.20	15.10	0.66
4. JKL Bond Portfolio	9.10	9.00	1.10
5. MNO Global Fund	11.30	11.20	0.89
6. PQR High Yield	7.80	7.70	1.30
7. STU Real Estate	13.60	13.50	0.74
8. VWX Commodity	10.40	10.30	0.97
9. YZA Tech Sector	16.90	16.80	0.59
10. BCD Dividend	8.30	8.20	1.22
11. EFG Growth	14.70	14.60	0.68
12. HIJ Energy	12.10	12.00	0.83
13. KLM Healthcare	9.50	9.40	1.06
14. NOP Financial	11.80	11.70	0.85
15. QRS Aerospace	13.90	13.80	0.72
16. TUV Telecomm	15.40	15.30	0.65
17. WXY Biotech	17.20	17.10	0.58
18. ZAB Media	10.60	10.50	0.95
19. CDE Retail	8.90	8.80	1.14
20. FGH Industrial	12.30	12.20	0.82
21. IJK Chemical	11.00	10.90	0.91
22. LMN Pharmaceutical	14.50	14.40	0.69
23. OPQ Semiconductor	16.10	16.00	0.62
24. RST Computer	18.30	18.20	0.55
25. UVW Software	19.70	19.60	0.51
26. XYZ Hardware	17.50	17.40	0.57
27. ABC Services	15.80	15.70	0.64
28. DEF Logistics	13.20	13.10	0.76
29. GHI Shipping	11.70	11.60	0.86
30. JKL Airlines	14.00	13.90	0.72
31. MNO Hotels	12.60	12.50	0.80
32. PQR Restaurants	10.90	10.80	0.92
33. STU Entertainment	13.40	13.30	0.75
34. VWX Media	11.10	11.00	0.91
35. YZA Publishing	9.80	9.70	1.03
36. BCD Advertising	12.00	11.90	0.84
37. EFG Consulting	10.50	10.40	0.96
38. HIJ Engineering	13.70	13.60	0.73
39. KLM Construction	11.40	11.30	0.88
40. NOP Manufacturing	14.20	14.10	0.71
41. QRS Automotive	12.80	12.70	0.78
42. TUV Aerospace	15.60	15.50	0.64
43. WXY Defense	17.90	17.80	0.56
44. ZAB Space	19.40	19.30	0.52
45. ABC Telecomm	16.70	16.60	0.60
46. DEF Internet	18.10	18.00	0.55
47. GHI E-commerce	20.30	20.20	0.50
48. JKL Digital	21.50	21.40	0.47
49. MNO Virtual	22.80	22.70	0.44
50. PQR Cyber	24.10	24.00	0.42
51. QRS Data	25.40	25.30	0.39
52. STU Network	26.70	26.60	0.37
53. VWX Cloud	28.00	27.90	0.36
54. YZA SaaS	29.30	29.20	0.34
55. ZAB PaaS	30.60	30.50	0.32
56. ABC IaaS	31.90	31.80	0.31
57. DEF FaaS	33.20	33.10	0.30
58. GHI Serverless	34.50	34.40	0.29
59. HIJ Edge	35.80	35.70	0.28
60. IJK CDN	37.10	37.00	0.27
61. JKL Content	38.40	38.30	0.26
62. KLM Streaming	39.70	39.60	0.25
63. LMN Gaming	41.00	40.90	0.24
64. NOP VR	42.30	42.20	0.23
65. OPQ AR	43.60	43.50	0.23
66. PQR Metaverse	44.90	44.80	0.22
67. QRS NFT	46.20	46.10	0.22
68. STU Blockchain	47.50	47.40	0.21
69. VWX Crypto	48.80	48.70	0.20
70. YZA DeFi	50.10	50.00	0.20
71. ZAB Web3	51.40	51.30	0.19
72. ABC DAO	52.70	52.60	0.19
73. DEF Token	54.00	53.90	0.18
74. GHI Coin	55.30	55.20	0.18
75. HIJ Altcoin	56.60	56.50	0.17
76. IJK Stable	57.90	57.80	0.17
77. JKL Memecoin	59.20	59.10	0.17
78. KLM Meme	60.50	60.40	0.16
79. LMN Shitcoin	61.80	61.70	0.16
80. NOP Dogecoin	63.10	63.00	0.15
81. OPQ Bitcoin	64.40	64.30	0.15
82. PQR Ethereum	65.70	65.60	0.14
83. QRS Solana	67.00	66.90	0.14
84. STU Cardano	68.30	68.20	0.14
85. VWX Polkadot	69.60	69.50	0.14
86. YZA Cosmos	70.90	70.80	0.13
87. ZAB Tezos	72.20	72.10	0.13
88. ABC Elrond	73.50	73.40	0.13
89. DEF Hologres	74.80	74.70	0.13
90. GHI Celer	76.10	76.00	0.13
91. HIJ Matic	77.40	77.30	0.12
92. IJK Optimism	78.70	78.60	0.12
93. JKL Arbitrum	80.00	79.90	0.12
94. KLM ZkSync	81.30	81.20	0.12
95. LMN Starknet	82.60	82.50	0.11
96. NOP Scroll	83.90	83.80	0.11
97. OPQ Bloxroute	85.20	85.10	0.11
98. PQR RSK	86.50	86.40	0.11
99. QRS Lisk	87.80	87.70	0.10
100. STU NEM	89.10	89.00	0.10

La crème de la

SECRETARIES

Make Victoria the next stop in your career

Humphreys and Glasgow are leading international engineering contractors. We are looking for a busy and successful 1984 and are looking for experienced secretaries, ideally aged 23-30, to join our friendly, professional team.

Secretaries - with a smart appearance and good telephone manner - are currently needed in the following departments:

SENIOR SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR
You should be well educated with an ability for figurework, and first class shorthand/typing.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
Two positions, each requiring good shorthand.

INSURANCE
Short-hand essential; audio would be useful.

DESIGN GROUPS
Must have a good knowledge of word processing - and ideally experienced on Philips 5002.

OFFSHORE ENGINEERING
New position needing very good shorthand. Some overtime involved.

Located right next to Victoria Station, and close to excellent shops, we offer very attractive conditions and benefits to the right people. In addition to competitive salaries, negotiable benefits include: 22 days holiday, flexitime, interest-free travel loans (after 6 months), bonus and profit-sharing scheme.

Send career details to:
Mrs Audrey Kettle, Personnel Department,
Humphreys & Glasgow Limited,
Chestergate House, 253 Vauxhall Bridge Road,
Victoria, SW1V 1BD.

Partner's Secretary

Chartered Accountants
City Based

We are looking for an alert and experienced secretary who will use initiative in the application of basic shorthand secretarial skills to support a Partner in his professional work.

The person appointed will need to take responsibility for a wide range of organisational and administrative duties and be able to communicate well at all levels.

A very competitive salary will be offered depending on age and experience.

Please telephone in the first instance or write enclosing brief career details to Valeria Dibley.

Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co.,
Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane,
London EC4A 1NH. Tel: 01-637 7130.

Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co.

A MEMBER OF AMSA IN EUROPE AND ARTHUR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL

OIL COMPANY SECRETARY

£8,000 - £10,500

Amerada Hess (U.K.) Limited, the U.K. subsidiary of Amerada Hess Corporation, the world's 18th largest oil company, is seeking to appoint a secretary to the Purchasing Manager.

This is an interesting opportunity for a senior secretary to help establish the Purchasing Department from scratch, providing full back-up to the Manager.

The successful applicant should be aged 25-35, possess excellent shorthand and typing skills and have the flexibility to become an integral part of the team. Proven organisational skills and an enthusiastic attitude to what will be a heavy workload are essential, together with plenty of initiative.

Candidates should have at least five years' experience working at a senior level, preferably within the oil industry. Knowledge of Wang word processors is desirable. Applications, giving full relevant details, should be addressed to:

P.W. Brown, Personnel Manager,
Amerada Hess (U.K.) Limited,
2 Stephen Street,
Tottenham Court Road,
LONDON W1P 1PL.

Discover a great career with



ADVERTISING

£9,000

A major international advertising agency needs a PA for one of their board directors. He is responsible for new business development, so you will be co-ordinating the presentation of client companies and organising the board and entertainment schedule, as well as providing secretarial back-up.

A get-up-and-go mentality is essential, with a positive and sparkling personality. Educated to A Level standard, you are a beautiful turned out and used to working under pressure.

Age 23-30
Speaks 100/60

Angela Mortimer Ltd

155 Piccadilly

01-734 6666

PERSONNEL

Junior Manager, suitable for one and a half to two years' experience. Interviewing and a must along with company and last years. Call 01-637 7130.

BILINGUAL HAMMERSMITH

French French with English mother-tongue. - 100% 52% wage as 25% to Director of successful French Co. c. £7,000+, free parking, early 20's. Call 01-637 7130.

ADVERTISING ADMIN

c. £7,500 W2
Young legal Personnel & Admin. Director needs right-hand on 100/60 in 20's. Call 01-637 7130.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS

RECRUITMENT LTD

SECRETARY

For Chief Executive and Town Clerk
£7,788 - £8,493
Plus Pension

A "Top" Secretary is required for the Chief Executive and Town Clerk of this large and busy London Borough of Enfield.

This is a responsible position calling for an experienced Secretary with a good education, excellent shorthand/typing skills, the ability to be initiative and a pleasant personality with the ability to cope with people at all levels. Local Government experience would be an advantage. Informal enquiries to Mr A. Kelly, 01-364 9453.

An application form is available from the Chief Executive and Town Clerk, P.O. Box 30, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3XL. Closing date 21.1.84. Please quote reference BL/EA.

La Crème

SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT, CONSULTANTS

ADVERTISING

c. £8,000

This is generally one of the best opportunities for a young shorthand secretary that we have seen, but it does ask for the kind of dedication and commitment few are prepared, or able, to give.

For further details, please telephone Theresa Green on 01-499 0631. Hambro Life Assurance PLC, Britain's largest unit-linked insurance company.

01-636 4086

JCR

CONSULTANTS

JANE CROTHAMITE

RECRUITMENT LTD

TEMP INTO PERM

1984

Last year's arrival of our temporary secretaries did just that. They did the economies, but found out what the people they'd be working with were really like as a couple of months went by. In a couple of months they had a good working relationship. Obviously not all our temp secretaries are like this, but it is a good way to find out what you're getting. For further details, please call Rosemary Green or Kate Cookley.

21 Beauchamp Place SW3

Tel: 01-581 2577

LARGE INTERNATIONAL CITY BASE

Require young shorthand and typing secretaries for a busy international company. A good shorthand and typing secretaries are essential. Salary £6,000 per year with excellent benefits, including pension, holiday, bonus, interest-free travel loans, and free parking. Hours 9.15-6.45. For more details, please call 01-637 7130.

21 Beauchamp Place SW3

Tel: 01-581 2577

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Growing W.C.2 Ad

experienced P.A. 25+ to creative director. It's a position, needing real motivation. Great potential to handle admin and to develop dealings with Ad agency experience preferred. We will be very demanding good salary to the right person. 01-379 7317.

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01-379 7317

ELECTRONIC MAIL AND WORD PROCESSING CO-ORDINATION- Wang based £9,000

A vacancy for a rather person - to work in a small developing Wang based processing and Electronic Mail organisation. Your role will be to co-ordinate many activities concerned with the introduction of new equipment to our network of offices - and to be directly involved in many of them. Activities will include: training, glossary

co-ordination and operation of the electronic mail system, together with some secretarial responsibilities. To join us, you will need a tactful and friendly manner with good people skills and organising ability and ideally a knowledge of Wang systems and their operation. The appointed candidate is likely to be over 30 years of age, but we are prepared to be persuaded otherwise.

To find out more about the vacancy, please call Penny Noble on 01-235 6060.

Are you young, bubbly and a first-class Secretary? Then the Tupperware Company has just the vacancy for you!

This is a key position within the company where there are splendid career prospects for someone in their early-mid twenties who is presentable, cheerful and looking for a demanding position.

The excellent salary and benefits will reflect the nature of the appointment.

The person appointed must be able to work on their own initiative, be capable of dealing with people at all levels and prepared to do some travelling within the UK. Good secretarial skills and pleasant telephone manner are essential. We are based in Harrow and all applications should be made in writing, enclosing CV to:

Ian Laurie, Personnel Director,
The Tupperware Company,
Tupperware House, 130 College Road,
Harrow, HA1 1BQ.

All applications will be treated in complete confidence.

Resilient? Seeking Challenge?

.....then there may be an interesting opportunity for you in the Secretariat of an international bank in the City.

Good shorthand/audio typing speeds, secretarial experience at personal/confidential levels, smart appearance and late 20's/early 30's vintage are the basics, but a cheerful, flexible attitude is needed as you will be working for several people. Duties will vary from minor administration matters to Chairman's travel and work will come via the secretary to the Senior Manager.

Salary will be in the £7,000-£8,000 range, other benefits including low-interest house loan and incentive scheme.

Please write giving details of age, education, experience and present salary to Mr. E. Cotter.

GSP

Golley Slater and Partners Limited

42 Drury Lane, London WC2B 5RN.

Secretary in Personnel

c.£8,500 plus preferential mortgage facilities

A prestigious international bank in the City is looking for an intelligent well-organised secretary to support the Head of Personnel who is responsible for the efficient operation of the personnel function within a sophisticated and demanding environment.

Candidates should be aged 25-30 years old, possess good secretarial skills and should be charismatic, diplomatic and above all, dynamic! Previous personnel experience would be helpful but less important than the correct personal skills.

Please write, enclosing a curriculum vitae to:
Box No 1844, c/o Exel Advertising,
4 Bouverie Street, London EC4V 8AB.

SECRETARIES - make a great start to 1984!

Fast, demanding and rewarding, that sums up these two new jobs in an expanding recruiting consultancy in Kensington.

SECRETARY: With client contact, arranging interviews, organising meetings and many other tasks, you'll never be bored! You'll need a good general education, impeccable first class shorthand/typing skills, and a sense of humour. Ref: SEC.

JUNIOR SECRETARY: An excellent "stepping stone" for a fast copy typist. This wide range of general office duties, plus involvement with candidate applications, references etc., will appeal to someone who can learn quickly. At least 5 years experience and a good telephone manner are the other main requirements. Ref: JS.

For both positions experience on a word processor would be a definite advantage. We offer attractive negotiable salaries, according to experience, plus good holiday entitlements. If you are interested in finding out more please write sending a typed CV with a handwritten covering letter, quoting the appropriate reference number to: Miss B.A. Varden, Webb Whitley Associates Limited, International Recruitment Consultants, 45 Kensington High Street, London W8 5EJ.

Webb Whitley Associates Limited

SALES NEGOTIATORS

Established & expanding firm of Estates Agents & Chartered Surveyors require Sales Negotiators for their offices in West & South West London.

Previous experience not essential but a minimum of 3 years working experience required, preferably in Sales.

Age 25-35.
Car driver.

Please forward CV to Box 2204 H The Times.

SENIOR SECRETARY

Required for friendly firm of chartered surveyors based in Westminster. Applicants should have good shorthand audio and excellent typing. Some knowledge of word processing would be an advantage.

Good salary and annual bonus. For further information please contact Mrs Nelson on 01-222 6661 (No Agencies Please)

01-222 6661

SENIOR SECRETARY

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01-222 6661

WANTED . . .

Third girl to share . . .

Our Wang (System 30) word processing department . . .

This is a very busy position and you should therefore be a FULLY TRAINED OPERATOR, competent to deal with bulky text and some figure typing.

In addition you should have the dedication to take work from handwritten stage through first and second drafts to final report stage.

Ideally you will be in your twenties, have plenty of initiative and a bright, lively personality.

We know we are asking a lot but you will be well rewarded for your efforts. LV's, season ticket loan and other benefits apply.

Please write enclosing your c.v., or telephone me for further details:

Yvette Enright
Chem Systems International
28, St James's Square, London SW1
Telephone: 01-839 4652

(nearest tube, Piccadilly and Green Park Stations)

Secretary - Stockbroking

We are a leading international financial organisation seeking an experienced secretary for one of our senior brokers. In addition to selling decisions (minimum shorthand speed 100 wpm) there is client contact, and therefore applicants must have a confident manner, as well as the ability to find out how the business operates. This will enable the broker and his secretary to work as a team in handling clients' etc. We would expect applicants to be educated to O level standard (ideally A level), and a liking for figures would be helpful. If you are looking for more involvement than you feel you are getting in your present position, we would be interested in hearing from you.

Salary: c. £7,200 but negotiable depending on age and experience. Benefits include interest-free season ticket loan, pension, life assurance and medical scheme and mortgage subsidy.

CV's (with contact telephone number where possible) to:

MERRILL LYNCH EUROPE LTD

Recruitment & Training Dept

27 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AQ

(No agencies)

Merrill Lynch

RECEPTIONIST

Lloyds Insurance Broker

City Based

We are currently seeking a Receptionist for our Executive Suite.

If you have a mature approach to work, are used to working at a senior level, possess good typing skills, an excellent telephone manner and good organisational skills - this could be the job for you.

In return we offer an excellent salary and fringe benefits.

For further details please ring Mary Palmer on 01-623 4631 ext. 3331 or apply in writing, giving career details to date, to Mary Palmer, Personnel Officer, Leslie & Godwin Ltd, Dunster House, Mark Lane, London, EC3P 3AD.

01-623 4631

SECRETARY - PA KENSINGTON

Large firm based in W.8. require either male or female P.A. Secretary for the Marketing Manager. A very fast, hard-working environment demands that the person be highly professional and have a natural flair for organisation. A European Language is an obvious advantage but not essential. Good dress sense. Excellent telephone manner and the ability to follow throughout the whole company and yet maintain confidentiality is essential. Limited shorthand and basic knowledge of telex preferable - typing 80 wpm.

To arrange an interview, please contact Lesley Moffatt, Personnel Dept., London Tara Hotel, Scarsdale Place (off Wrights Lane), Kensington, London W.8. Tel: 01-937 7211.

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01-937 7211

Today's television and radio

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Cerebral AM. News headlines.

6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank

Bough and Salina Scott. News

with Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00,

7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with

headlines on the quarter

hours; sports news at 6.40 and

10.40; regional news, weather

and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45

and 8.15 the day's television

previews at 6.55; a review of

the morning papers at 7.18

and 8.18; Esther Rantzen's

That's Life film between 7.30

and 7.45 with a follow-up

phone-in between 7.45 and

8.00; and horoscopes at 8.35.

9.00 The New Adventures of Flash

Gordon. 5.25 Why Don't

You... 7 Ideas for bored

youngsters from Scottish

children. 8.50 Weekly Races

at 10.00. Play Chess! Advice

for beginners from Ed

Hartman. 10.10 Jackson

Bernard Cribbins reads part

three of The Mystery of Mr

Jones's Disappearing Taxi (r).

10.25 Paddlington visits the

Bank (r). 10.30 Play School.

10.55 Gharber. A magazine

programme of interest to

Asian women. Today's

programme is devoted to

music with singers and

musicians from the sub-

continent. 11.20 Mary

Chipperfield's Trunk Call to

Sri Lanka. Miss Chipperfield

oversees the attempts of an

island. 12.00 Look Back with

John Noakes along the South

Downs.

12.30 News After Noon with Richard

Whitmore and Frances

Coverdale. 12.57 Regional

news (London and South East).

Financial report followed by

news headlines with subtitles.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One

includes singer Beryl

Reese and the cooking

canon from Carleton, the Rev

John Eley 1.45 Box (r).

2.00 Film: Merry Andrew (1958)

starring Danny Kaye as a

teacher who joins a travelling

circus. Directed by Michael

Kidd. 3.40 Carleton House-

Hunting Mica. 3.48 Regional

news (not London). 3.50 Ivor

the Engine (r).

3.55 Play School presented by

Heathcote. 4.20

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TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain

presented by Nick Owen and

John Stapleton. News with

Gavin Scott at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30,

8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.55;

Winney's pets at 6.40; and

exercises at 6.50; and 8.55;

Jimmy Baxter's anniversaries

at 7.05; a guest in the

Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at

7.25; Pat Phoenix at 7.40; pop

video at 7.55; magic moments

at 8.05; and a gossip

column at 8.35; and news

headlines at 8.55.

9.00 Roland's Winter Wonderland

Gordon. 9.25 Why Don't

You... 7 Ideas for bored

youngsters from Scottish

children. 8.50 Weekly Races

at 10.00. Play Chess! Advice

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BBC 2

3.05 Film: The Greatest Show on

Earth (1952) starring James

Stewart, Charlton Heston,

Betty Hutton and Dorothy

Lamour. A Cecil B. de Mille

spectacular about the

members of the Royal Ballet

when a massive three-ring

circus begins a United States

tour. The circus, the tenors

of which become too much for

some.

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 George Orwell. This final

part of the Arma documentary

about the life and writings of

George Orwell deals with the

time he spent in the Hebrides

following the death of his wife

and where he wrote Nineteen

Eighty-four, completed under

much strain due to his

tuberculosis. There are

contributions from, among

others, Sonia Orwell, his

second wife, and Richard

Blair, his adopted son. The

programme also includes

assessments of Nineteen

Eighty-four from writers Julian

Symons and Tobias Fyvel.

6.30 Cartoon Two.

6.40 Film: The Shipper and the

Rose (1978) starring Genna

Craven and Richard

Chamberlain. A lavish musical

based on the story of

Cinderella, with music and

lyrics by the Shermans.

Richard and Robert. A star-

studied cast includes Edith

Evans, Margaret Lockwood,

Kenneth More and Michael

Hodges. Directed by Bryan

Forster.

9.00 Pot Black 84 introduced by

Alan Wicks. The start of the

18th series of the immensely

popular snooker tournament.

There is a new format this year

with instead of the usual eight

players competing in groups of

four there are now 16 players

in a knockout system. First to

the table are three times winner

of the tournament, John Spencer

and Alex Higgins.

9.25 Play: Aunt Suzanne, by

Michael McLaverty. Set in

Belfast in the 1920s the story

concerns a man from the

country who comes to look

after his niece and nephew

when their mother dies.

Eventually accepted by the

children, she still has an

uneasy relationship with the

father. And she also has a

secret... Starring Susan

McLuskey as Aunt Suzanne.

10.05 Blue Tits and Bumble

Bees... David Bellamy

introduces this programme on

how, over the course of a year,

landscape architect and

horticulturist, Sir John

Sainsbury, turned his suburban

Birmingham garden into an

area buzzing with wildlife and

full of surprises.

10.50 Newsnight.

11.35 World Darts. Tony Gibbs

introduces highlights from the

day's quarter-final matches in

the Embassy World

Professional Championship.

Ends at 12.15.

12.40 Night Thoughts from Rev

Peter Lewis.

CHOICE

The little-known and heavily

censored World War Two

documentary, THE WAR OF THE

SPRINGING TIGER, TV 9.00pm.

The prime mover behind the

documentary was a former

member of the Indian

National Army, who, having

rejected his leader's policy of

non-violence, saw

an opportunity to hasten

India's independence. The

opportunity arose when

Gandhi had him thrown

out of the Congress Party. Bose

formed a splinter group - not

only anti-British but also

anti-Russian - and secretly

visited Germany to seek help.

This was readily given by

Hitler and Bose recruited

Indian Legion troops

captured in North Africa,

languishing in German

prisoner-of-war camps.

Meanwhile, the

Japanese had invited

Captain Mohan Singh of the

Indian Army to lead a

force of Indian soldiers

to fight alongside the

Japanese. The Indian

soldiers were disillusioned

with the Japanese and

disbanded his forces.

The story of a new leader

Bose was smuggled from

Japan by submarine to

help build the force and

"liberate" India. The

fascinating story of his

lucky encounters with

archival interviews with

six of the leading

participants of the

National Army. In

Congress politician in

India and with British

officials who are

dealing with the

treachery - or

misplaced idealism.

Mohan Singh, the first

commander of the

National Army. TV 9.00pm

Mohan

Sellafield cancer victims get compensation

Compensation has been paid to six workers at Sellafield (formerly Windscale) nuclear plant who have contracted cancer, although the plant in Cumbria has not admitted responsibility.

Mr William Waldegrave, under secretary at the Department of the Environment who disclosed the payments yesterday in a letter to a Labour MP, said British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) recognized the "possibility of a cancer being linked to radiation".

But Mr Brian Sedgmore, MP for Hackney South and Shore-ditch, said that amounted to a government admission that "on the balance of probability the plant is not safe".

He expressed disbelief at government claims that no one had died from radiation. "The body count is zero, it seems, simply because liability is never admitted", he said.

Mr Waldegrave said nine claims two leukaemias and seven other cancers - had been made since BNFL took over management responsibilities in 1971. "In no case has liability been admitted", he said. "Com- pensation has been paid in out-of-court settlements in respect of six of the nine cases".

"According to studies by BNFL there is not a detectably greater incidence of cancers in workers at Sellafield than in the general population."

"However, as good employers, BNFL consider that they cannot ignore the possibility of small numbers of cases where an individual's employment with the company may have been a factor in his contracting a cancer."

BNFL had enabled some claimants to receive compensation even though they might not have been able to prove their case in court.

But Mr Sedgmore said: "The Government's admissions constitute alarming news at a time when the Director of Public Prosecutions is considering prosecuting BNFL for breaches of safety regulations."

"So far we have been assured publicly that no one has died from radiation poisoning as a result of the development of civil nuclear power in Britain. In the light of the latest admissions this claim does not seem credible."

He also said the Government paid the compensation without going to court because it wanted to avoid a "public examination of how radiation leaks at Sellafield may have caused cancer and leukaemia in their workers".

Syria frees US airman

Continued from page 1

out of Lebanon within hours if Mr Reagan was forced to change the course of American strategy.

HMS Fearless, an assault ship, is offshore and extra helicopters have been based on Cyprus for the past two months, with enough capacity to ensure that any withdrawal of the 100 British servicemen could be effected cleanly and quickly.

But Whitehall sources were at pains to emphasize that although reviews of the situation were regular, there were no plans for a withdrawal and there was no knowledge of any American plans - for the moment.

The Prime Minister is undoubtedly concerned to give Mr Reagan maximum moral support at a time of domestic political difficulty.

Some sources stated that the British contribution to the multi-national force was not exclusively based on an American request for support. It was pointed out that the Lebanese

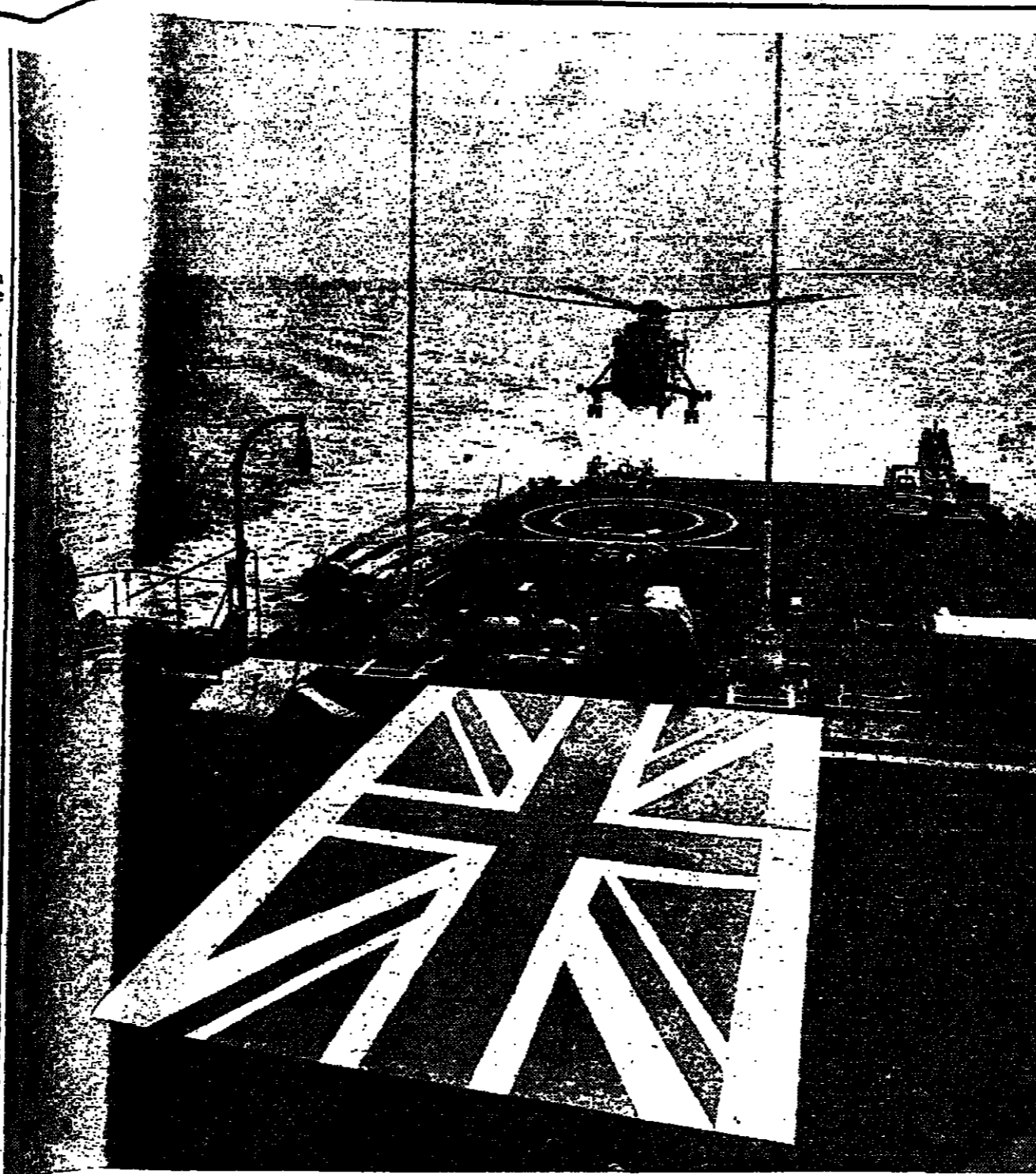
appreciated the British contribution and that the Cabinet accepted the British role provided there was no unacceptable risk to the safety of the British contingent.

Meanwhile, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, played up the mounting pressure on Mr Reagan as a means of outflanking Mrs Thatcher.

He said at Heathrow before leaving on an official visit to Greece that British troops should be withdrawn because they were targets.

In an ITN interview he said: "The view of the Pentagon and the former CIA chiefs and the American presidential candidate, Mr Walter Mondale, as well as the French and the Italians, seems to be that no positive subscription is being made to keeping the peace; that is why we believe the British troops should be brought home."

Mr Neil Kinnock, page 2
Assad interview, page 6



A Sea King taking off from HMS Fearless to fly to Beirut (Photograph: Terry Fincher)

Back-up force for the boys in Beirut

The smart British Ferret armoured cars are a familiar, even popular, sight in east and west Beirut, where they encounter friendly greetings from Christians and Muslims.

When a British contingent of about 100 officers and men joined the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon last February, they were regarded by many as a token military gesture.

They were dwarfed by the American, French and Italian contingents, which ranged from 1,800 to 2,100 soldiers.

The American and French came under fierce attack and retaliation. The Ferrets have never been under serious attack, and the stray bullets and occasional rocket grenades that have hit the British headquarters in the battle-ground suburb of Hadath were mostly accidental.

The British have not fired one bullet. The 74 officers and men of the 165th Lancers who man the armoured cars and the 41 headquarters staff are part of a formidable back-up force.

For every man in Beirut, there are dozens more ready to give immediate support.

Royal Navy warships, led by the assault ship Fearless, patrol the Mediterranean - yet keep out of sight of the Lebanese coast,

and Sea King helicopters are ready to evacuate the troops.

Just over 100 miles away on Cyprus, six Buccaneer strike jets are on stand-by at the RAF base at Akrotiri and can be over Beirut within 14 minutes.

A flight of Phantom fighter-bombers make continuous training flights to Cyprus, and can back up the Buccaneers from 12 Squadron and 208 Squadron who flew from their base at Lossiemouth, Scotland, to provide support.

Chinook helicopters of 7 Squadron and 18 Squadron arrived from Britain and Germany to ferry supplies to Beirut. Wessex helicopters from 34 Squadron, based in Cyprus, are there for rescues or searches.

Letter from Jerusalem Agony as the small men call it quits

There is only one reason why I am going home. The rate on bank overdrafts went up this week to 525 per cent. Inflation will soon be over 200 per cent and no one is making the fat cats pay. It is us, the small men who have fought hard for our country, who are suddenly expected to tighten our belts.

The angry speaker was Maurice, a *sabra*, or native-born Israeli, aged 28, a supporter of the ruling right-wing Likud coalition, who is one of thousands of Jews (one official prediction at the weekend was between 50,000 and 100,000) planning to leave Israel this year, probably never to return.

Like most Israelis, Maurice is acutely aware of the stigma attached to emigration - always referred to by the pejorative Hebrew word *yerida*, meaning "going down" - which is why he, and all the others I spoke to, on the emotive subject, refused to be identified.

Last September, Israel's top chief rabbi ruled that to emigrate from the state, which is built on the concept of immigration (known as *Aliya*, or "coming up") was tantamount to idolatry and was only permitted in "in extreme economic difficulties, such as famine".

Maurice, who is unmarried and owns a sandwich-bar in Jerusalem, is in many ways typical of those who now find that the strain imposed by Israel's ailing economy and the measures being taken to rescue it, are too onerous. His intention to go to South Africa or the US is a warning to the Government that many members of its main constituency, the Sephardic Jews, who put it in power, are contemplating the ultimate social protest.

A number of my friends are planning to get out by the summer, whatever the "shame", said Maurice, whose left hand is officially described as "40 per cent disabled", the result of a grenade blast in Lebanon. He denied he was leaving for ideological reasons: "I want only one thing, the freedom to earn a decent living for hard work".

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the former Labour Prime Minister, referred to *yerida* as the "dropping-off" of the "weaklings", but recent findings have shown it is impossible to classify those leaving, under one or even two headings.

Established in 1982, after emigration the year before reached 25,900, a level not seen since the despair which gripped Israel after the 1973 war, the department has failed to persuade the Cabinet to adopt its main recommendations, substantial benefits for demobilised soldiers and more rental housing.

1981 was the first year in which Israelis leaving exceeded the number of immigrants. The balance improved subsequently, with the Jewish Agency claiming recently that figures for last year were expected to show 17,000 new arrivals, 3,000 up on 1982.

There is no doubt, from recent inquiries that the trend to leave is on the up, though at this stage we cannot put a figure on it, Mr Friedberg said. "The chief factor is economic, with the added pull-push effect that, just as things are looking black here, they are looking better in the US."

Although the Government is reluctant to admit it, there is also an ideology factor, with many Israelis disturbed at what they see as the changing face of a country become less Europeanized and more subject to religious laws.

Emigration statistics are notoriously unreliable and subject to endless political controversy - a furor caused by a 1981 report that 500,000 Israelis were living in the US still continues.

Outside the bustling consular section of the American Embassy in Tel Aviv yesterday, most of those clutching their newly-acquired visas brushed off the suggestion that they might be going for anything more than an extended holiday.

But one Tel Aviv resident, who arrived in Palestine before the foundation of the Jewish state and is now advertising his flat, told *The Times*:

"You can be certain that once our flat is sold, my wife and I are getting out as fast as we can. I do not have to go through that mess again at my age. In Lebanon and with the economy, Mr Begin (the former prime minister) brought the country to its knees - I am not surprised he resigned; he must have done it from shame."

Christopher Walker

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions
David Carland, paintings; Karin Hensberg, pots; Michael Cech, mirrors; Kathryn Ross, cars and telescopes. Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Feb 1).

Movements - 2nd of three exhibitions about painting sponsored by the Arts Council, the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.30 (ends Jan 29).

Light, first of three exhibitions about painting sponsored by the

Arts Council, Castle Museum, Norwich; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Jan 29).
Museum closed for essential work. Museum of Costume, Bennett Street, Bath.

Last chance to see
Sainsbury's Images for Today: winners of competition for British artists. Cartwright Hall, Lister Park, Bradford; Tues to Sun 10 to 5 (ends Sun).

Paintings by Peter Sutton; City Museum and Art Gallery, Preston; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5 (ends Sat).

Paul Farmer; "Scottish Connections", Gallery 9, Aberdeen Art Galleries, School Hill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8 (ends Sat).

Exhibitions in progress
Rail Images through the lens. Featuring more than 100 years of photography. Royal Photographic Society, the Octagon, Milton Street, Bath; Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45 (ends Sun Feb 1).

Home Sweet Home - an exhibition of Victorian Home Life. Portmouth City Museum and Art Gallery, Museum Road, Old Portsmouth; Mon to Sun 10.30 to 5.30 (ends Jan 26).

New books - biography

The Literary Editor's selection of autobiography and biography published during the year.

A Variety of Lives, a biography of Sir Hugh Greene, by Michael Tracey (The Bodley Head, £15).

A Portrait of Charles Lamb, by David Cecil (Constable, £9.95).

Ernest Bevin, Foreign Secretary 1945-1951, by Alan Bullock (Heinemann, £30).

Great Cobbett, the Noblest Agitator, by Daniel Green (Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95).

Hensley Henson, by Owen Chadwick (Oxford, £18.50).

John Maynard Keynes, volume 1, *Hopes Betrayed 1883-1920*, by Robert Skidelsky (Macmillan, £14.95).

King George V, by Kenneth Rose (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95).

Still Life, by Richard Cobb (Chatto & Windus, £8.50).

The Diary of Samuel Pepys, Companion and Index volumes, edited by R. C. Latham & W. Matthews (Bell & Hyman, £35 (h.p.)).

Thomas Mann Diaries, 1918-1929, selected and foreword by Hermann Kensten (Dutton, £16.95).

Vita, the life of V. Sackville-West, by Victoria Gindwinning (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95).

Weather

A ridge of high pressure will move across British Isles, followed in N by a trough of low pressure.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S, central N England, E Midlands: Mainly dry, sunny periods; wind NW moderate backing W later, max 3C (37F).

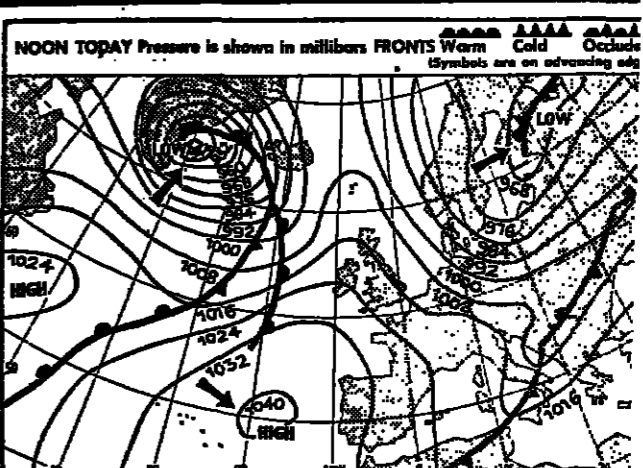
Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Sunny periods, isolated wintry showers becoming cloudy later; wind NW fresh or strong becoming moderate later backing SW, max temp 3C (37F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Sunny periods, isolated wintry showers, becoming cloudy later; wind NW fresh or strong becoming moderate later backing SW, max temp 3C (37F).

Wales, NW, NE England, Lake District: Sunny periods, isolated wintry showers becoming cloudy later; wind NW fresh or strong becoming moderate later backing SW, max temp 3C (37F).

Central Highlands, Argyl, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, isolated wintry showers, becoming cloudy, rain or sleet later; wind NW fresh or strong becoming moderate later backing SW, max temp 3C (37F).

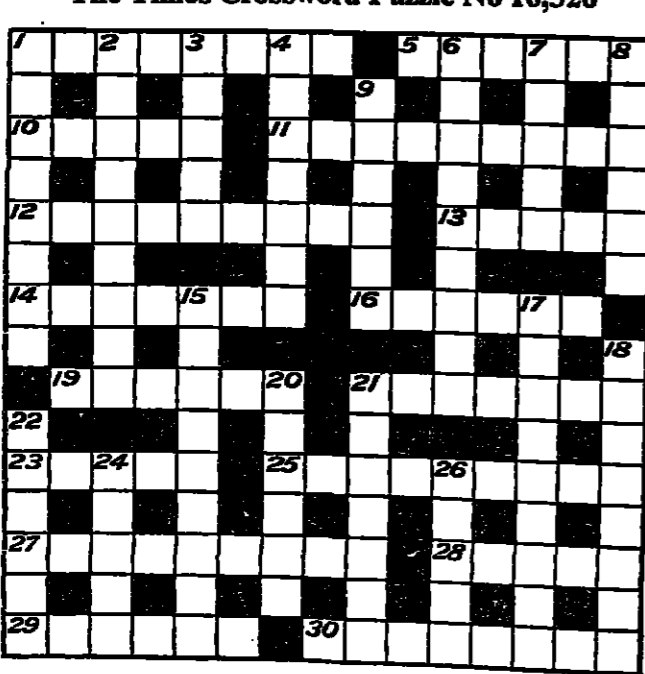
Central Highlands, Argyl, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Sunny intervals, isolated wintry showers, becoming cloudy, rain or sleet later; wind NW fresh or strong becoming moderate later backing SW, max temp 3C (37F).



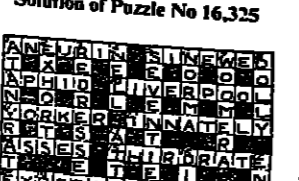
High tides			
Location	Time	Height	Notes
London Bridge	12.45	6.8	
Aberdeen	1.54	4.0	
Avonmouth	7.51	12.8	
Belfast	11.39	5.5	
Cardiff	1.36	11.8	
Devonport	6.24	5.3	
Dover	11.22	6.1	
Falmouth	5.54	5.1	
Glasgow	12.14	4.7	
Hull	12.14	13.2	
Hythe	10.57	5.1	
Leith	7.02	6.8	
Liverpool	12.14	6.2	
London (City)	12.14	5.3	
Lowestoft	10.17	2.4	
Margate	12.19	4.6	
Millport Haven	11.57	8.1	
Newquay	6.55	6.8	
Oban	6.22	5.9	
Plymouth	12.14	4.2	
Portsmouth	7.38	2.1	
Sheerness	11.43	6.0	
Southampton	11.28	4.3	
Swansea	11.57	7.1	
Tees	4.17	5.2	
Wolverhampton	12.3	4.0	

Time measurement in megal: 1m=3.2808

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,326



- ACROSS**
- Many repeat something learned (8).
 - Slave girl with a number on back (6).
 - Fish a sort of ray? That's about right (5).
 - Pre-eminent business-men give mid-direction (9).
 - A past confession of industrial action inspired by fear (3-6).
 - Quick look for beheading weapon (5).
 - Love Douro's blend - fragrant (7).
 - Well-content to be in this craft? (6).
 - "- to have a battle" (Carroll) (6).
 - Broke leg once, in Scotland (7).
 - Beast reluctant to follow direction (5).
 - Money taken by lake restaurant (7).
 - Told military group was of importance (9).
 - Standing order given to employees, perhaps (5).
 - Account appears very foreign on board? (6).
 - Indicate entering document as planned (8).
- DOWN**
- Barker is in Canada (8).
 - Most egotistical number in a musical? (5-4).
 - Sand stopwatch for climber (5).
 - Fabrics the head put on lots of children (7).
 - A cable NUM members sent after accident (9).
 - Ride round a country (5).
 - Book shelf? Right (6).
 - Night smash swindle (6).
 - Wickets taken by catches? (9).
 - Sort of rain in which to write poetry (9).
 - Gilbert White's address? (8).
 - Discuss girl coming out before tea-break (6).
 - Magnificent quarters for nobleman (7).
 - Very big bloomer when naming a god (6).
 - Award given by Fingal O'Flaherty (5).
 - Foreign soldier can be a ship-boarder (5).



CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 6

The papers

The Regan Administration's effort to wreck a small but esteemed nonpartisan operation in Latin America proves how desperately it prefers doctrinal purity to effective policy. The New York Times says. The inter-American Foundation has been a highly useful aid agency whose nonpartisan character was respected by Congress and rewarded by three previous Administrations. That concept was finally scuttled when the Reagan Administration wrote to Peter Bell, a Budget official who wrote to Peter Bell, the foundation's President, to ask authority justified the agency's claim to autonomy. A surprised Bell said Congress's clear desire to insulate its work from the ebb and flow of political currents. "A month later, the Conservative Heritage Foundation, though conceding that the agency has done much good, accused it of favouring collectivism over free enterprise in ways incompatible with the philosophy of the Regan Administration. Bell rejoined that \$100m out of grants totalling \$135m had gone to private business and farms, and that any case the foundation was not meant to be the policy tool of a single Administration." Underdetermined, Times says, the Administration brought the foundation to heel by naming to its board a conservative chairman and two State Department officials - by recess appointments, without Congressional approval. This majority has now ousted Bell for his incompatible chemistry. "The deplorable effect will be to dissipate the agency's most precious resource: its credibility as a nonpolitical source of aid."

The Daily Nation, the Nairobi independent, commented on the new year's appeal by President Milton Obote of Uganda for Ugandans to return home. "Many of these qualified Ugandans are getting fat salaries in exile. They deserve to enjoy the fruits of their labour like everybody else. Apart from the economic hardships they are afraid of experiencing in Uganda, the exiles are also afraid their lives may be endangered. This fear is misplaced. Obote has assured them that they will be as safe as other Ugandans. The exiles should accept Obote's assurance and return home. Their country needs them."

Anniversaries

Births: James Ussher, Archbishop of Armagh, 1625-40, Dublin, 1581; Giovanni Pergolesi, composer, Jesi, Italy, 1710; Louis Braille, Coisparvay, France, 1809; Sir Isaac Newton, Woolsthorpe, Lincolnshire, 1643; Augustus J. John, Tenby, Dyfed, 1878; Deaths: Stephen Hales, botanist, Teddington, Middlesex, 1761; Henri Bergson, philosopher, Paris, 1941; Donald Campbell, one-time holder of speed records on land (403.1 mph in 1964) and water (202.32 mph in 1965), killed on 27.33 mph in 1967, killed on Coniston Water, 1967.

Canal Marathon

The British Waterways Board has organized the first-ever Trans-Pennine Canal Marathon for canoes, covering a strenuous 127-mile route on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal from May 26-31. Any reasonably competent canoeist is welcome to enter, although the BWB warns that the route involves 30 portages around locks, passage through two tunnels, and ascent to and descent from a summit pound of 487ft above sea-level. Details and application forms from Gwen White, Liverpool Watersports Centre, Inner Temple, Temple Lane, Liverpool L3 5RS (tel. 051-227 3208); or Keith Wheel, BWB, 1 Dock Street, P.O. Box 9, Leeds LS1 1HH (tel. 0532-436741).

Weather records

Last year it was warm over most of Britain, the exception being the north and west of Scotland, where it was rather dull and wet, with near or just below average temperatures. The London Weather Centre says in its annual weather round-up. The winter, rather mild as a whole, was an exceptionally mild January. April saw a record rainfall in London and the S and E, part of a Spring that was the fourth wettest in this century, with London having the hottest weather since reliable records were first kept in 1840.

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Roads

London and South-east A13: Single lane traffic between Stanford Le Hope and junction with A128, at Orsett, Essex: congestion at peak periods.

Midlands A34: Contraflow on Stone-Nottingham road at Stoughton, Staffordshire, A456: Roadworks between Hagley and Halesowen, leading to lane restrictions and closures. A429: Roadworks between Wellbourne and Stow at Halford, Warwickshire.

Wales and West M4: Lane closures at junction 32 (Cardiff) and junction 34 (Llantrisant); delays.

A38: Eastbound carriageway closed east of Lee Mill, on Ivybridge to Plymouth road, A38: Traffic restrictions in West Street, Bedfordshire, Bedford.

North: A66: Single-lane traffic, temporary signals on bridge at Eden Lodge, Kirkby Thore, Cumbria.

A66: Traffic lights, reconstruction at Kellingly, A61: Resurfacing work along Barnsley Road near Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

Scotland: A92: Single lane traffic, lights, reconstruction at Kellingly, A61: Resurfacing work along Barnsley Road near Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.68	1.58
Belgium Fr	28.95	27.35
Canada \$	84.25	86.25
Denmark Kr	6.25	6.15
Finland Mkk	14.83	14.13
France Fr	8.74	8.34
Germany DM	12.40	11.90
Italy Lira	348.50	330.00
Japan Yen	169.00	155.00
Netherlands Gld	11.50	10.90
Portugal Esc	1.31	1.26
Spain Ptas	247.50	235.00
Sweden Kr	1.34	1.29
Switzerland Fr	1.48	1.43
USA \$	2.34	2.10

Lighting-up time

London 4.35 pm to 7.35 am, 7C (45F); 4.45 pm to 7.45 am, 4C (39F); 4.55 pm to 7.55 am, 3C (31F); 5.05 pm to 8.05 am, 2C (23F); 5.15 pm to 8.15 am, 1C (15F); 5.25 pm to 8.25 am, 0C (7F); 5.35 pm to 8.35 am, -1C (-17F); 5.45 pm to 8.45 am, -2C (-25F); 5.55 pm to 8.55 am, -3C (-33F); 6.05 pm to 9.05 am, -4C (-41F); 6.15 pm to 9.15 am, -5C (-49F); 6.25 pm to 9.25 am, -6C (-57F); 6.35 pm to 9.35 am, -7C (-65F); 6.45 pm to 9.45 am, -8C (-73F); 6.55 pm to 9.55 am, -9C (-81F); 7.05 pm to 10.05 am, -10C (-89F); 7.15 pm to 10.15 am, -11C (-97F); 7.25 pm to 10.25 am, -12C (-105F); 7.35 pm to 10.35 am, -13C (-113F); 7.45 pm to 10.45 am, -14C (-121F); 7.55 pm to 10.55 am, -15C (-129F); 8.05 pm to 11.05 am, -16C (-137F); 8.15 pm to 11.15 am, -17C (-145F); 8.25 pm to 11.25 am, -18C (-153F); 8.35 pm to 11.35 am, -19C (-161F); 8.45 pm to 11.45 am, -20C (-169F); 8.55 pm to 11.55 am, -21C (-177F); 9.05 pm to 12.05 am, -22C (-185F); 9.15 pm to 12.15 am, -23C (-193F); 9.25 pm to 12.25 am, -24C (-201F); 9.35 pm to 12.35 am, -25C (-209F); 9.45 pm to 12.45 am, -26C (-217F); 9.55 pm to 12.55 am, -27C (-225F); 10.05 pm to 1.05 am, -28C (-233F); 10.15 pm to 1.15 am, -29C (-241F); 10.25 pm to 1.25 am, -30C (-249F); 10.35 pm to 1.35 am, -31C (-257F); 10.45 pm to 1.45 am, -32C (-265F); 10.55 pm to 1.55 am, -33C (-273F); 11.05 pm to 2.05 am, -34C (-281F); 11.15 pm to 2.15 am, -35C (-289F); 11.25 pm to 2.25 am, -36C (-297F); 11.35 pm to 2.35 am, -37C (-305F); 11.45 pm to 2.45 am, -38C (-313F); 11.55 pm to 2.55 am, -39C (-321F); 12.05 am to 3.05 am, -40C (-329F); 12.15 am to 3.15 am, -41C (-337F); 12.25 am to 3.25 am, -42C (-345F); 12.35 am to 3.35 am, -43C (-353F); 12.45 am to 3.45 am, -44C (-361F); 12.55 am to 3.55 am, -45C (-369F); 1.05 am to 4.05 am, -46C (-377F); 1.15 am to 4.15 am, -47C (-385F); 1.25 am to 4.25 am, -48C (-393F); 1.35 am to 4.35 am, -49C (-401F); 1.45 am to 4.45 am, -50C (-409F); 1.55 am to 4.55 am, -51C (-417F); 2.05 am to 5.05 am, -52C (-425F); 2.15 am to 5.15 am, -53C (-433F); 2.25 am to 5.25 am, -54C (-441F); 2.35 am to 5.35 am, -55C (-449F); 2.45 am to 5.45 am, -56C (-457F); 2.55 am to 5.55 am, -57C (-465F); 3.05 am to 6.05 am, -58C (-473F); 3.15 am to 6.15 am, -59C (-481F); 3.25 am to 6.25 am, -60C (-489F); 3.35 am to 6.35 am, -61C (-497F); 3.45 am to 6.45 am, -62C (-505F); 3.55 am to 6.55 am, -63C (-513F); 4.05 am to 7.05 am, -64C (-521F); 4.15 am to 7.15 am, -65C (-529F); 4.25 am to 7.25 am, -66C (-537F); 4.35 am to 7.35 am, -67C (-545F); 4.45 am to 7.45 am, -68C (-553F); 4.55 am to 7.55 am, -69C (-561F); 5.05 am to 8.05 am, -70C (-569F); 5.15 am to 8.15 am, -71C (-577F); 5.25 am to 8.25 am, -72C (-585F); 5.35 am to 8.35 am, -73C (-593F); 5.45 am to 8.45 am, -74C (-601F); 5.55 am to 8.55 am, -75C (-609F); 6.05 am to 9.05 am, -76C (-617F); 6.15 am to 9.15 am, -77C (-625F); 6.25 am to 9.25 am, -78C (-633F); 6.35 am to 9.35 am, -79C (-641F); 6.45 am to 9.45 am, -80C (-649F); 6.55 am to 9.55 am, -81C (-657F); 7.05 am to 10.05 am, -82C (-665F); 7.15 am to 10.15 am, -83C (-673F); 7.25 am to 10.25 am, -84C (-681F); 7.35 am to 10.35 am, -85